

TESTED

Lenovo Vibe Shot, Apple iPod touch, Xiaomi Mi 4i, Mazda6,
Starmobile Knight Vision, Braven Balance, Fujifilm X-T10

TECHNOLOGY FOR THE
FAST-PACED LIFESTYLE



Speed

TM

OCTOBER 2015
P150

FUNKY FINNISH PHONES

Relive Nokia's
golden days

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Megan Young

+
A day in the
life of the
mobile Juan

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TAP INTO A NEW DIMENSION

Apple iPhone 6s

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OCTOBER 2015

ATRO
MEDIA INTERNATIONAL, INC.

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MOBILE TECHNOLOGY AT ITS FINEST

PAGE
76

R7

Style in a Flash

oppo



R7 Lite



R7 Plus

- Premium Metal Unibody
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Drive@earth

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ON THE COVER



Cover Megan Young
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Hair Chris Rodil

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Tech on the go

No other technology

It's now a computing device that can do innumerable tasks—and all it takes is a tap and a swipe.

Want to read the news, know the traffic situation in your area, or monitor your fitness goals? Check your smartphone. Need to set an appointment with your doctor, book a hotel, shop for clothes, or pay your bills? A few presses on your handset should do the trick. Hungry but too lazy to go out? Order your food with a few taps. And if you simply want to binge-watch your beloved TV series or listen to your favorite playlist, you can do so using your mobile device.

has placed the world in the palm of our hands quite like mobile tech. The humble cellphone has ceased being a mere tool we use to communicate.

In *Speed's* second Mobile Devices issue for the year, we put together articles exploring the different ways this technology is taking over embedding itself into our daily lives (p.76). We also take a look back at Nokia's glory days with a seven-page feature of some of their most iconic devices (p.67); a film shot using an iPhone that became a hit at Sundance (p.86); practical tips and tricks for your Android or iOS device (p.122); and the latest picks from the Apple tree (p.30).

Mobile tech is traveling a fast-track trajectory. Some say that the mobile industry is nearing saturation. We, however, feel there's still a lot of untapped potential to explore. Mobile technology no longer means just smartphones and tablets. It's your watch, your bracelet, your clothes, or even your car. It means the stuff you use anytime you're on the go—

internet, social media, GPS, apps, and services. Platforms like Instagram and Snapchat are being tapped to reach audiences who consume content on mobile. Digital advertising and marketing are going mobile, too.

So while the smartphone form factor and feature set may have reached a plateau, mobile tech is far from stagnating. It's evolving, growing, expanding—and we look forward to more innovations in this industry in the next few years.



Katrina Rivere-Diga
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Meet the geeks

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Contributors



If **Francis Inton** would have it his way, he'd be playing records all day and drawing on his Moleskine in Tokyo as you are reading this. But unfortunately, slavery is still rampant in his chosen field of advertising. He is a creative director working on 100 percent Pinoy brands. He is secretly the reason why you buy the food you eat, take the meds you take, and score random purchases of things you don't need. Find him at ***solitarypartygroover.jux.com***.



Chrissy I. Dalusong has been working in the digital industry for almost a decade, having experienced being a Web editor for Summit Media, to working as a digital supplier, and now as Samsung Philippines' digital marketing manager. Ironically, she graduated with a degree in the very traditional discipline of Literature. Instead of a lamp on a bedside table, she sleeps beside her husband's Millennium Falcon.



The fastest way to **John Sosmeña's** heart? Three lanes: food, games, and music. While he doesn't speak his mind in words, he spends his time scribbling lyrics, exploring fusion food in the kitchen, and kicking ass in *Dark Souls* and *Heroes of Newerth*. Part-time ambivert, part-time martyr, John is in his usual persian hotspot Ababu or in the HoN-iverse, right down Caldavar's suicide lane.

Marlon Pecjo (a.k.a. Doc Marlon) is a radiologist-turned-fashion and advertising photographer who shoots covers for numerous publishing houses and campaigns for various fashion brands. He does a lot of commercial work as well and travels abroad regularly on different international assignments.



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Inbox



Handy tips

Hi, *Speed*!

I have been a fan and reader of *Speed* for years now, and you have continued to provide us with guidance—from tech to everyday life. Traversing through waters this rainy season, whether commuting or driving your own wheels, has always been a challenge, and your tips (in *Speed* September 2015 issue) will definitely be handy. I just hope I will not have to walk in flood waters and get my things soaked!

Thank you, *Speed*, for being a partner in making gadget choices easy with your reviews and opinions, and for being a friend and companion in conquering everyday life's challenges.

More power and cheers!

Karlo Galang

Hi, Karlo.

We're glad that the *Speed* September 2015 issue is proving to be very useful. Flooding has sadly become the norm, especially when you're living in Metro Manila. But don't worry about your copy of *Speed*. If it gets wet beyond repair, digital editions are available for download from Zinio, Magzter, and Buqo, while back issues are offered at the *Speed* office at a discount. Hurrah! Seriously though, we understand your plight. For that, we are gifting you a **Braven 705 Wireless Bluetooth Speaker** worth P4,950. The icing on the cake? It is IPX5-rated, which means it is resistant to splashes and water jets. So, yes, you can finally brave(n) through rain.



Fashion + Tech
Dear *Speed*,

I really enjoyed reading your September issue. It's very interesting to learn about how technology and fashion work together and how we benefit from them. I also like your features on Bags by Rubbertree (great stuff!) and iconic basketball shoes (*pang-#TBT*). Overall, nice lineup of articles, *Speed*! As usual, *nabug na naman ang utak ko*. ☺

So, what took you so long to have a Tech Look issue? More of this please!

Khristina Abueva

It's not what you think
Hi, *Speed*!

I'm sure you've heard this before: I've always thought that your magazine is only about cars and motorcycles, so I never bothered to pick up a copy.

One day, I decided to download a copy of your September issue from Zinio. Even though there's a scooter on the cover, the content of the magazine isn't just about cars or motorcycles at all. What a pleasant surprise!

Now I know better. Don't judge a magazine by its cover...or name. I super enjoyed reading your September issue that I purchased two other (old) issues on Zinio.

Arnold



Online presence
Dear *Speed* staff,

I'm one of your fans on Facebook and I enjoy reading your posts. I have two comments, though, and I hope you take them into consideration. One, I hope you post more than you do now (but not to the point of spamming) and two, have more website-exclusive articles, meaning ones we won't find in your printed edition.

Just my two cents. Thanks *Speed*!

Jay Baranda

Trending

TECH FRONTIERS



LEXUS HEARTBEAT CAR

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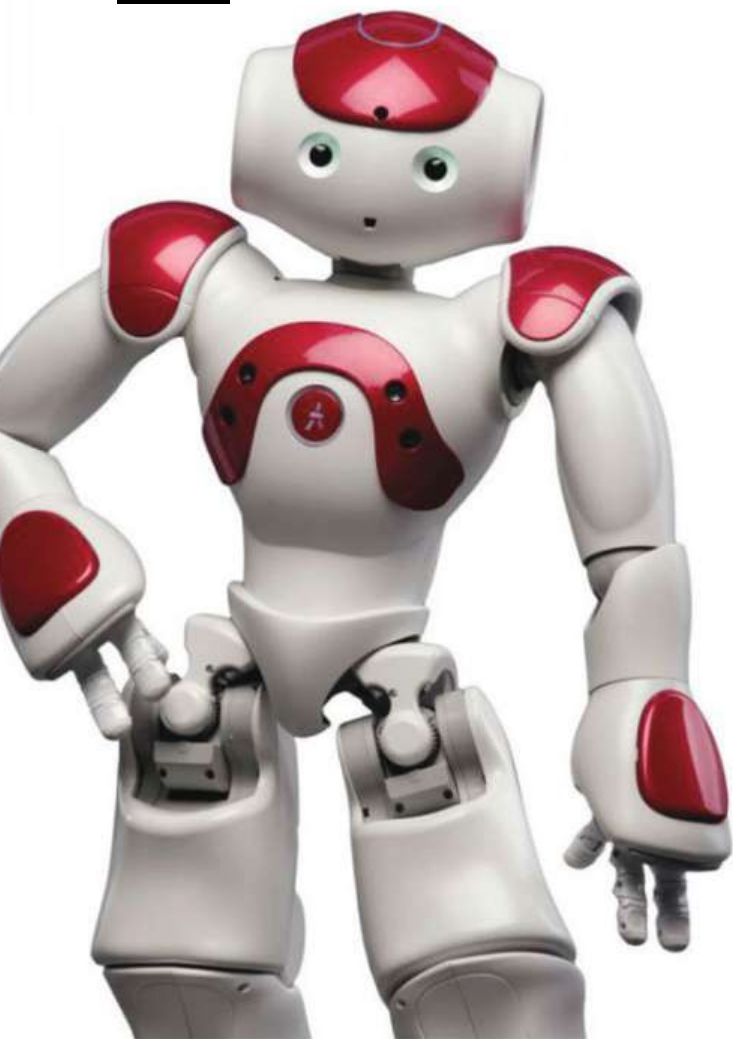
Words **MARTIN A. CUYEGKENG**

FIRST, CARS GET EYES WITH FRONT AND BACK SENSORS FOR SELF-PARKING. THEN, THEY WERE GIVEN AUTONOMY AND BECAME DRIVERLESS VEHICLES. Now, Lexus Australia has produced a car with a heart.

Together with M&C Saatchi Australia and Tricky Jigsaw, Lexus Australia wants to shift the conversation about cars from top speeds to how the cars affect drivers emotionally. The fruit of their collaboration is a one-off RC F V8 coupe that displays the driver's heartbeat in the vehicle's bodywork.

The phosphorescent substance contained in the specialized paint emits light when triggered by an electrical current sent wirelessly from the standard heartbeat monitor worn by the driver. When things get a little heart-pumping, a light display reflects the driver's heartbeat on the car body.

The team envisions practical applications to the technology, such as using it to signal when you're turning, or as a warning to other motorists if the driver is experiencing road rage or extreme sleepiness.



CUTE ROBOT SHOWS SELF-AWARENESS

SHOULD WE BE READY FOR A ROBOT TAKEOVER? In a recent experiment conducted by scientists in New York, three humanoid robots were programmed to think—two of them had been given “dumbing pills” (actually, a press of a button) that would prevent them from speaking, while one had been given a placebo. None of them knew which were given the “pill.”

When asked which two had been given the pill, all of them tried to respond aloud by saying “I don’t know.” After a while, the lone robot that was able to utter the actual words recognized its own voice and said, “Sorry, I know now. I was able to prove that I was not given a dumbing pill.”

Is this the beginning of the end of human dominance over robots? Probably not. One thing’s for sure, though: this little experiment is a giant leap for artificial intelligence.

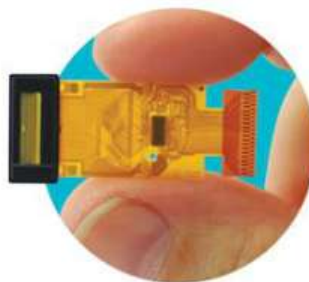


SIM-CITY FOR DRIVERLESS CARS

If virtual people have SimCity, driverless cars have Mcity.

The 13-hectare mini-metropolis at the north campus of the University of Michigan was created for carmakers to test-drive their autonomous cars. This literal city of the future provides a rich and full but controlled environment, with 40 building facades, a bridge, a tunnel, intersections, and even a four-lane highway with entrance and exit ramps.

According to drivers who steered this futuristic city into fruition, public roads are adequate grounds for testing these types of vehicles where they can encounter different scenarios. In Mcity, autonomous cars do not only experience these situations; they are also replicated and encountered several times for better data collection. Once a technology is proven in the controlled environment, it can be tested on public roads.



ULTRASOUND FINGERPRINT SENSOR

Looks like the days of numeric codes and dedicated fingerprint readers are numbered. Accessing your phones and tablets can soon be done by simply placing a finger on your device’s touchscreen.

A company called Sonavation has managed to create a super thin ultrasonic biometric sensor that can be imbedded in Gorilla Glass. Sonavation’s biometric sensor uses ultrasound to 3D-print a finger. According to the company, their sensor, unlike most scanners, can easily detect the ridges and valleys of any fingerprint for more accuracy and security.

TELEPRESENCE ‘BOTS

People with motor disabilities could soon get around with the help of a robotic avatar.

A brain-computer interface is being developed in Switzerland to translate mental intentions into simple commands for robots, such as left, right, and forward.

The robot in this case is an avatar for the user comprised of a laptop on wheels, with a camera and Skype to allow for virtual travel to different places and interaction while at home. Electrical brain signals are picked up by electrodes found on a non-invasive cap that the individual wears.



Alain Herzog, EPFL

SAY GOODBYE TO SELF-COMBUSTING LI-ION BATTERIES

You think exploding phone batteries are a myth? Unfortunately, this phenomenon is true. When your phone’s lithium-ion battery overheats, the internal segments burn and, at times, can explode. But Stanford University has some good news: adding lithium nitrate and lithium polysulfide to lithium batteries holds the promise of extending its life while improving safety and performance.

According to the study, the additives prevent the formation of dendrites, or sharp fingers of lithium that pierce the barrier separating the two sides of a battery. When layers of dendrites increase, the battery loses capacity and can cause it to short or overheat. With lithium nitrate, a solid interface is created between the two sides and keeps dendrites from forming.



Eye drop DISSOLVES CATARACTS

WOULDN'T LIFE BE SO MUCH EASIER IF THERE WAS A CURE THAT SIMPLY DISSOLVES EVERY KIND OF AILMENT? Here's one for starters: steroid-based eye drops are already in the works to dissolve cataract.

Cataracts cloud the vision of countless people all over the world, and if left untreated, could lead to blindness. Pretty soon, however, the naturally occurring steroid lanosterol could melt away cataracts when administered via eye drops. Scientists have tested lanosterol-based eye drops on human lens, rabbits, and dogs, and have so far come up with very encouraging results.

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TECH FRONTIERS

T

Those who have been stuck in a wheelchair for so long can finally look forward to walking on their own two feet thanks to exoskeleton technology designed for military use, rescue missions, and enhanced precision surgery.

A customized battery-powered system called the ReWalk Personal 6.0 System has been designed for regular patients with complete and incomplete paralysis. ReWalk works with an accelerometer that detects changes in the patient's center of gravity. Steps are driven by powered motors and controlled by software in an accompanying backpack. To switch from walking to standing mode, the user simply flicks between modes through his wristwatch.

THIS EXOSKELETON IS MADE FOR WALKING

IS THE END OF ALZHEIMER'S NEAR?

So many promising drugs out there today can possibly bring back a sense of normalcy to those afflicted with Alzheimer's.

So far the most promising cure is the antibody called solanezumab. After two years of testing, patients were reported to have less signs of deterioration. "The earlier you start treatment, the more effective it can be," says Maria Carrillo of the US Alzheimer's Association. Another prime candidate is azeliragon, a medication that reduces brain inflammation linked to Alzheimer's.

No single treatment can promise to completely cure the disease as Alzheimer's is caused by several factors, but so far these drugs at least give us hope.

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MAGNIFYING SMARTPHONE'S POWER

Your smartphone is so smart that it can do almost anything—work as your personal assistant, keep you connected to the world, help you stay fit, and even get you a date. But can it work as an electron microscope? It may not be time for an upgrade yet, but in the next few years, you can have the perfect lens—one that can zoom into single cells and viruses—in the palm of your hands.

Lenses that can resolve images down to the nanoscale can cost over a million dollars, but recently, researchers have been studying how to create a more affordable "perfect lens" that allows light waves to pass through without getting consumed (leading to poor resolution). According to researchers, smartphones are the perfect platform for this kind of technology.

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WHAT IF A BROKEN HEART CAN HEAL ITSELF?

And by a broken heart, we mean a damaged heart due to an attack, not a breakup.

During a myocardial infarction, the vital organ suffers irreversible damage, compensating by growing large and flabby which can eventually lead to congestive heart failure. To address this issue, researchers are looking at exosomes—sacs that allow different cells in the body to communicate—to help the heart's ability to self-repair.

"Our work shows that the best way to regenerate the heart is to augment the self-repair capabilities and increase the heart's own capacity to heal," says researcher Dr. Mohsin Khan of the Temple University School of Medicine. After testing the stem cell exosome on mice, Khan's team reported improved heart function, less scarring, and improved capillary development.

 www.123rf.com/profile_nerthuz





TAP INTO THE FUTURE

Words ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN

The recently unveiled iPhone 6s and 6s Plus come with a 3D touch feature. While already a remarkable treat, can we expect the next Apple products to sport tap-responsive side and back panels to make on-screen commands?

A new patent awarded to Apple hints that the tech giant wants to incorporate this technology, described in the patent to be about "fine-tuning an operation based on tapping," into its future products.

With this, devices would be designed to respond to taps or nudges to make more precise operations such as selecting texts or moving objects. This operation will be made possible by designing devices with built-in sensors, including an accelerometer, a gyroscope, and a compass.

Imagine using a spreadsheet and tapping the left panel to move your cell selection to the right; or editing misspelled text without having to tap the right letter on a trial-and-

error basis. In an era when smartphones register inaccurate taps on the screen, this technology could be a savior.

The amount of force applied on a tap could make varied commands, much like how a pen tablet reads a stylus' pressure. Expect stronger taps to select more elements or move objects at a greater distance. If tapping lightly highlights a single word, tapping stronger may highlight a whole sentence or phrase.

There's no guarantee yet when the technology will be out, so we'll have to rely on traditional on-screen taps for now. But we're keeping our fingers crossed that Apple uses this technology soon.

THE WOOD VIBES.



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GRAIN

A U D I O

CAR-PLANE MASHUP

The flying car has been in development for several years now, and the Terrafugia TF-X is one concept that promises simplicity, safety, and ease of use.

The TF-X uses two primary helicopter rotors and an electric motor with a 300hp engine to allow the craft reach a non-stop 500-mile range and cruising speed of up to 200mph. It carries four passengers, fits into a standard single-car garage, and can be driven on roads and highways.

It's also optimized for space constraints in city use, requiring only a 100ft-diameter clear space for vertical takeoff.

The TF-X will still be in the works for the next 8 to 12 years, so hold on to your landlocked ride for now.



PLASTIC GETS FANTASTIC

A better alternative to asphalt roads would be plastic. At least that's what Dutch firm VolkerWessels claims, with their proposed pavements made of recycled plastic.

According to VolkerWessels, their PlasticRoad can withstand extreme temperatures ranging from -40°C to 80°C. It's also more durable, corrosion-resistant, and low-maintenance than asphalt. And since it can be manufactured in large prefabricated sections, construction and installment time can be cut down from months to weeks.

If this concept pushes through, PlasticRoad will offer another viable solution to repurposing plastic waste.



RISE OF THE SUPERBUGS

Cockroaches can now save your life.

Thanks to the efforts of Alper Bozkurt and his team at North Carolina State University, cockroaches can be outfitted with tiny electrodes that stimulate their antennae to navigate their physical environment. Led by an independent drone, these cyborg cockroaches can be deployed through structural rubble, assisting search-and-rescue operations.

Roaches are physically hardy and can travel in and out of the tightest spots. So when they're fitted with electronic sensor backpacks, they explore terrain in a coordinated fashion within an invisible radio fence, in turn relaying the data they gather to the drone, and sending the information back to the search team for immediate action when necessary.



OFFICE PRINTING

AND BY 'OFFICE PRINTING,' WE MEAN A 3D-PRINTED OFFICE—from the materials, to the furniture, and the entire office structure itself.

This highly imaginative project was cooked up by the United Arab Emirates National Innovation Committee to help position the country as a technological and architectural leader.

It consists of a 2,000-square foot building erected in the center of Dubai, where all the components will be printed and assembled on-site, instead of being shipped from remote areas.

The building will be made of a mixture of concrete and construction waste, applied layer by layer, and further stabilized with special hardeners and fiber-reinforced plastic and gypsum. Assembly of the project is expected to take just a few weeks.

HAZARD-FREE headphones

MUSIC SHOULDN'T ADD TO MORTALITY. THIS IS WHY DESIGNER GEMMA ROPER DEVELOPED SAFE + SOUND, A PAIR OF SPECIALIZED BONE-CONDUCTION HEADPHONES THAT WILL MINIMIZE THE CHANCES OF CYCLISTS GETTING TOO DISTRACTED BY THEIR MUSIC WHILE ON THE ROAD.

Safe + Sound conducts soundwaves through the wearer's cheekbones into the inner ear rather than onto the eardrum, so he or she can still easily detect ambient noise and stay alert for approaching road hazards. To avoid the problem of added bulk, the device itself can be clipped onto any biker's helmet and can be converted into a regular pair of headphones so bikers don't have to lug around two types of headphones.





LIFE IS A BEAUTIFUL SPORT **LACOSTE** 

Noise barriers quiet traffic,
produce energy

BEAUTIFUL BARRIERS

Words **CARMELA MARAAN FERNANDO**

NEAR DEN BOSCH, THE NETHERLANDS, A HIGHWAY IS BEING TESTED WITH A NOISE BARRIER, WHICH, AS THE NAME SUGGESTS, IS USED TO REDUCE NOISE GENERATED BY TRAFFIC. Only, instead of your typical boring piece of infrastructure, this noise barrier doubles as a solar panel. And it's colorful, too.

Standard noise barriers are especially useful in high-traffic avenues near residential areas, but they can be clunky and ugly. To address this, engineers at the Eindhoven University of Technology have designed a more streamlined and cross-functional type of barrier, which looks more attractive on the roadside and is a source of solar energy. This barrier uses specialized

technology called luminescent solar concentrators (LSCs).

LSCs are colorful light-absorbing panels that are each 5 meters wide and 4.5 meters high, whose edges are fitted with standard solar cells. These panels store clean energy, which the city's inhabitants can use later.

Since the LSCs are visually attractive, they can be installed in various environments. According to researcher Michael Debije of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Chemistry, the noise barriers are robust, are inexpensive to produce, and will work even when the sky is cloudy.

The LSCs are currently being tested for energy efficiency under various weather conditions, as well as durability against wear and tear and vandalism. So far, initial evaluation shows that one kilometer of the solar noise barriers can generate enough electricity for 50 homes. If the year-long tests prove that these barriers are sound enough, they may be soon deployed in the city as a low-cost, sustainable, and beautiful alternative to managing street noise.





NANO-MITE AND MAGIC

CAN NANOTECHNOLOGY TRANSFORM POLLUTED WATER INTO A POTABLE ONE?

Researchers have discovered a way to remove pollutants from both water and soil with the help of nanoparticles without leaving behind any byproducts. By shining ultraviolet light on a solution of nanoparticles in soil and water, these microscopic particles would bond to specific chemicals and clump into microscopic lumps of contaminants, making them easier to remove with filters.

The researchers didn't drink the water, but according to the study's lead author, using this method "would be possible" to make contaminated water and soil cleaner.



Elisabeth Buecher

SPIKY SOLUTION

ALTHOUGH LONG SHOWERS—WHETHER IN THE MORNING OR AT NIGHT—SEEM PERFECT, THEY COME AT THE COST OF WASTING A PRECIOUS RESOURCE: WATER. With this in mind, London-based textile installation artist and educator Elisabeth Buecher has come up with a rather funky concept to help conserve water—by force.

Buecher's concept: a shower curtain that kicks you out after four minutes of water-wasting showers. The shower curtain turns into inflatable "spikes" once you've been in the shower for four minutes.

It's not exactly high-tech, but you gotta admit it's a clever way to make people more aware of their lifestyle choices, and promote awareness of wasteful water consumption.



PAPER-THIN POWER CHARGER

SOLAR CHARGERS ARE NOTHING NEW, BUT THE EXISTING ONES ARE EITHER TOO SMALL TO BE EFFECTIVE OR TOO BULKY TO BE CARRIED AROUND—but not this paper-thin solar charger on Kickstarter.

Called Solar Paper, this green charger is 7.5 inches long, 3.5 inches wide, and 0.15 inches thin, and comes with a USB charging port that sticks out like a

Paper apart from other solar chargers is that its magnetic sides allow users to attach more panels to boost its charging capabilities. Each individual panel generates a maximum of 2.5W of power, so four panels (which is the maximum number of panels you can connect) will provide up to 10W via USB.

bookmark when you slip the Solar Paper in your book. There's also a built-in display so you can see how much power the device is generating at a particular time.

What sets the Solar



José Antonio Peñas (Sinc)

BRIDGING THE GAP

WIND POWER IS AWESOME. IT'S CLEAN AND IT'S PLENTIFUL. However, finding where to place wind turbines can be challenging, so researchers from Europe are looking into the viability of having bridge-mounted wind turbines.

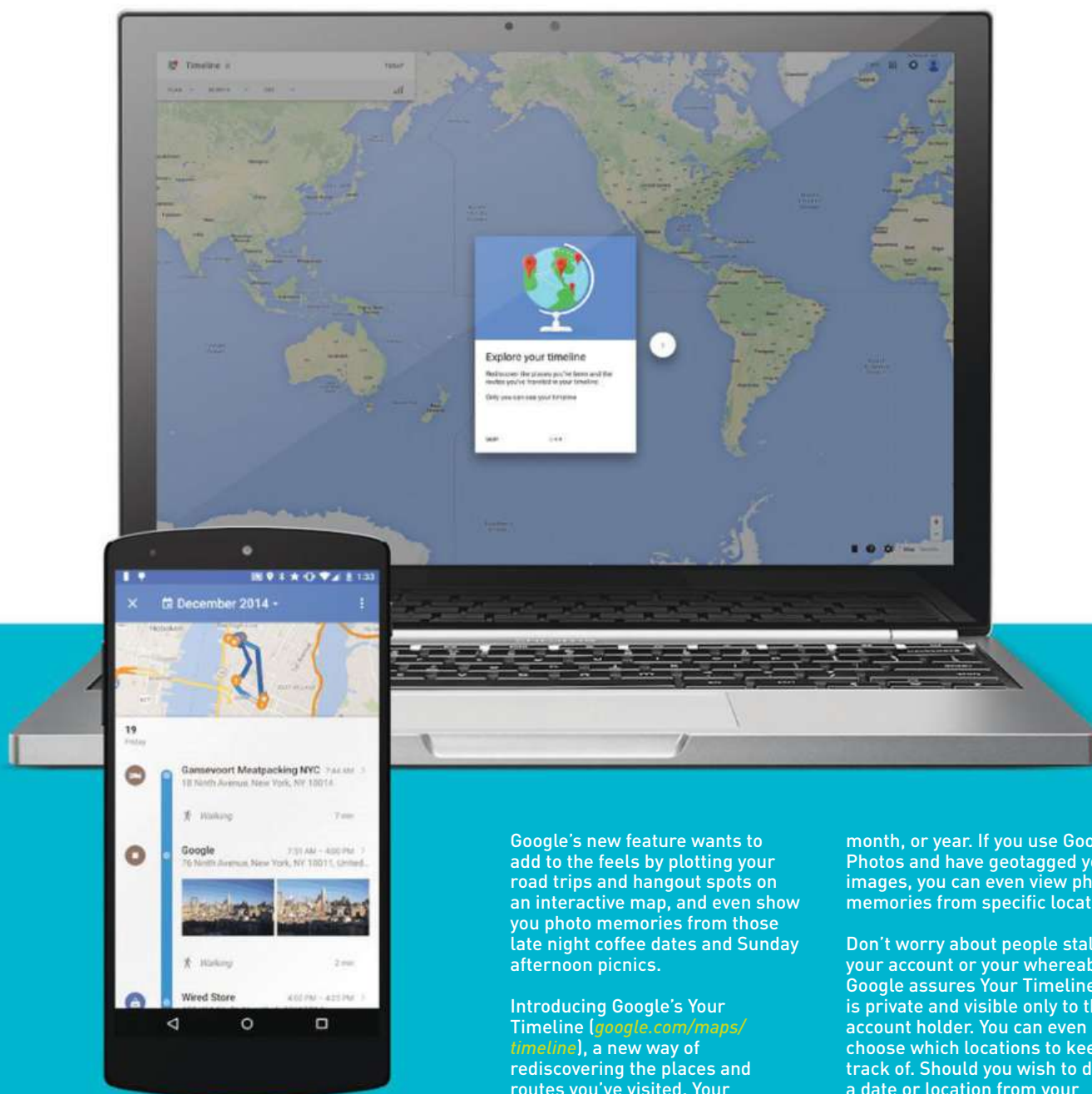
A team of Spanish and British engineers used the Juncal Viaduct, a car bridge in the Canary Islands, as a basis for computer simulations. According to their study, the best way to harness power would be to use two identical medium-sized 0.25MW turbines—for a total of 0.5 megawatts—which could theoretically generate enough energy to power about 500 homes and save 140 tons of carbon dioxide per year.

For now, the project remains a concept, but the researchers say it can be implemented as soon as someone is bold enough to do put a turbine underneath a bridge.

JOURNEY OF YOUR LIFE

Your Timeline by Google

Words **ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN**



NOSTALGIC ABOUT THOSE ROMANTIC DATES YOU HAD WITH THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL YOU'VE KNOWN BEFORE SHE LEFT YOU BROKENHEARTED?

Google's new feature wants to add to the feels by plotting your road trips and hangout spots on an interactive map, and even show you photo memories from those late night coffee dates and Sunday afternoon picnics.

Introducing Google's Your Timeline (google.com/maps/timeline), a new way of rediscovering the places and routes you've visited. Your

Timeline plots your day-to-day location as received from your mobile phone, and allows you to view your journey according to day,

month, or year. If you use Google Photos and have geotagged your images, you can even view photo memories from specific locations.

Don't worry about people stalking your account or your whereabouts. Google assures Your Timeline is private and visible only to the account holder. You can even choose which locations to keep track of. Should you wish to delete a date or location from your timeline, you are free to do so.

To use the feature, activate your Google Account's Location History on your mobile device. Your Timeline is available on desktop and Android devices.

SO FAST

THEY COME WITH A WINDSHIELD.

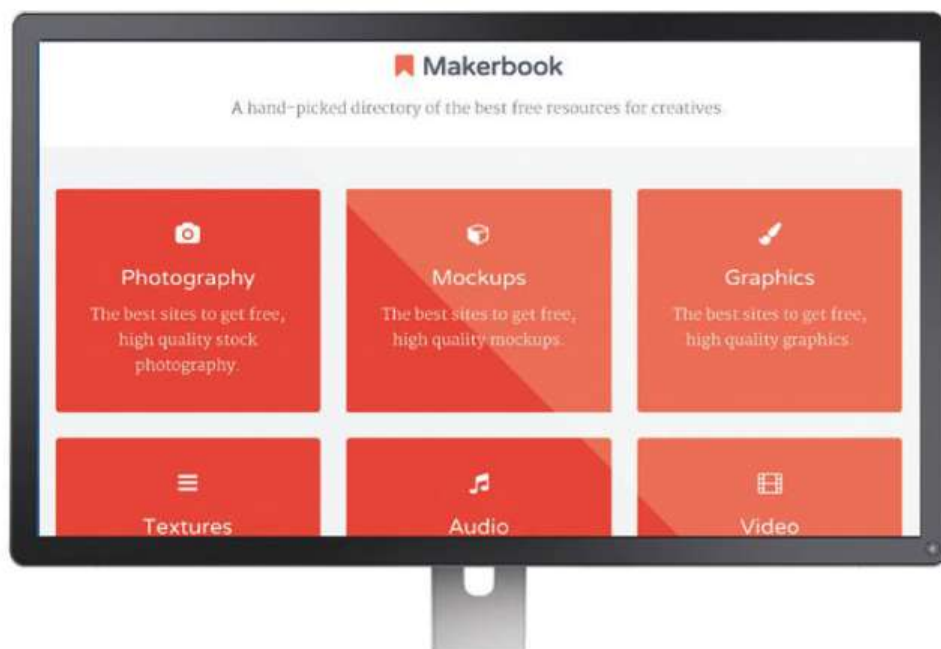
NIKE RUN X2



Because everyone should be able to see just how fast they are, the Nike Run X2s keep you feeling light, comfortable and quick on track, trail or road. A lightweight, adjustable frame and secure-wrap temples hold everything perfectly in place, while an adjustable, ventilated silicone nose bridge keeps the fit perfect and the fog at bay.

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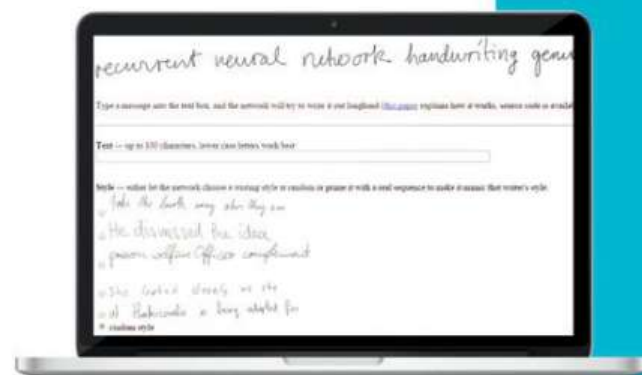
Handwriting secretary

Suitors, a new Web app wants to spoil you and your lazy dating habit. Say goodbye to handwriting love letters with Graves' Neural Network Handwriting Generator (www.cs.toronto.edu/~graves/handwriting.cgi).

This new Web app by Alex Graves from the University of Toronto now allows conversion of typed messages into texts that look handwritten.

Once you're on the site, simply type in a word or phrase with up to 100 characters into the text box, select a handwriting style, and then move the intensity of bias to make the words less or more legible before finally hitting the "Write" button.

The site will then display several results for you to choose from. Finally, save the converted "handwriting" of your choice, print out your letter, and seal that envelope with a kiss. Just make sure she doesn't find out it's not your true handwriting.



Artist's shack

IF YOU'RE AN ARTIST LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT INSPIRATION OR FINISHING TOUCH TO A MASTERPIECE, YOU MAY FIND THIS WEBPAGE AS A NEW HAVEN.

Makerbook (makerbook.net) is a free online database of sources of elements that you can use for creative projects, including photos, mockup designs, graphics, textures, fonts, videos,

free fonts from Google, Font Squirrel, and DaFont. Hitting audio, on the other hand, shows you links to YouTube, Free Music Archive, and Vimeo Music Store, among others.

The website was built by art director Craig Barber, who handpicked the best resources for every category.

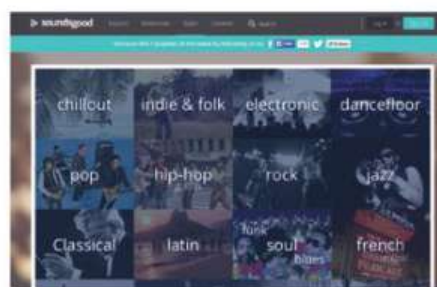
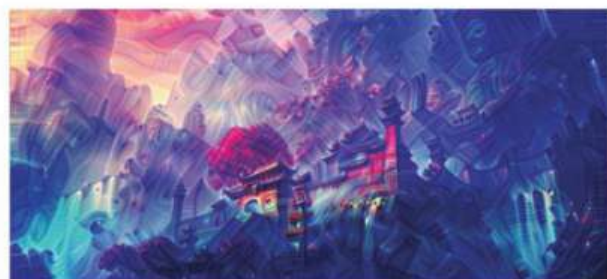
sounds, and tools.

In each category, the site shows you a set of websites where you can obtain free resources. For instance, clicking on fonts shows you

Gallery of oddity

Want to see the world as if you're in a strange, surreal dream? You can with Dreamscope (dreamscopeapp.com), which took Google's Deep Dream code a leap higher, letting you transform any image into a dreamlike artwork.

Through Dreamscope, you can upload artsy images and fill your Instagram with warped food photos or endless selfies. Just upload any image, select from 16 available filters, and behold the awesome (or creepy) transformation.



The perfect playlist

There is a new alternative music source to play the perfect soundtrack to your life.

Liven up your boring weekend or dreary weekday with Soundsgood (soundsgood.co), a music site offering playlists curated by real music lovers, including DJs, producers, and die-hard music enthusiasts.

Soundsgood is a newcomer to the room filled with several music streaming services, but it promises to deliver a playlist that matches the occasion you're in, so whether you're pushing yourself to get out of bed or getting the party started, there's a playlist for that.

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St. Luke's
MedConnect



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or Google play (Android users)



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App Store



ANDROID APP ON
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STEP 2

Type in [St. Luke's Medical Center]

GO

STEP 3

Follow the download instructions



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SYNCED SNAP

Pixcall

Platform: iOS

Words **ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN**

WANT TO THROW A WILD DARE TO YOUR BARKADA AND SEE WHO GETS THE MOST OUTRAGEOUS PHOTO?

You can do that easily with the new messaging app Pixcall, which

allows you and your friends to schedule a timed shoot—to ensure that no one backs out—and turn your photos into a collage afterwards.

Pixcall is the newest way to catch up with your buddies even if you're miles apart. It is a fun alternative to your usual Facebook group conversations or your one-one-one FaceTime chats. Aside from throwing in challenging dares, you can use Pixcall to snap themed collages, gather a simultaneous birthday greeting, or just see how your loved ones are doing at that exact moment.

To use the app, set the timer and invite your friends or loved ones to a Pixcall event. If they already have Pixcall installed on their device, the event would immediately appear on their list. If not, you can invite them or just about anybody with an iPhone from your contact list.

With Pixcall installed, you would be prompted every now and then of a pending shoot 30 minutes, 1 minute, or down to 10 seconds ahead of schedule. Once the time lapses, all your cameras will simultaneously fire and snap away.

After the shot, you can get to see your photos as a collage or piece by piece. If you still want to talk to each other that badly, Pixcall allows you to comment, share, or download the images before the files get deleted in 24 hours.





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TOSSUP

Platforms: Android, iOS

"Where do we eat lunch?" "Who's up for a meet-up Tuesday next week?" Make plans with your friends a little less complicated with Microsoft's new app. With Tossup, you ask the questions and your friends cast their votes. This makes gathering opinions, making a headcount, choosing venues, and arranging get-togethers easier. You can invite your friends or family via email, text, or Facebook and sync your plans to your phone's calendar.



WIFIMAPPER

Platforms: Android, iOS

After hundreds of thousands of iOS downloads, OpenSignal's WifiMapper app is now available for Android users. With WifiMapper, you can find the best and safest Wi-Fi hotspots to connect to in the area. The app relies on intel gathered from crowdsourcing. It measures the quality of the connection and combines this with Foursquare's location review data so you can get more information about the hotspot venue.



VIBBIDI

Platform: iOS

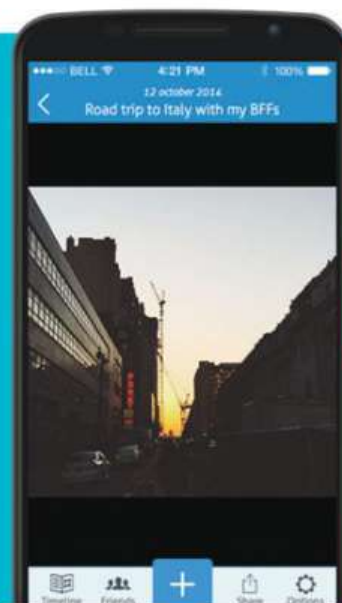
Move over, Instagram and Vine. VIBBIDI wants to take the spotlight as the premium application for video sharing. Like its competitors, the new free app features a social feed and a ton of filters. What sets it apart is in the video creation aspect. VIBBIDI asks you to record or import six 2-second clips from your phone. Once recorded, you can rearrange the clips and assemble them to your liking. The app can also add a soundtrack to your video.

Crossroad

Platforms: Android, iOS

FREE

All those photos taken during your last family reunion or that recent road trip with your *barkada* are probably going to stay in your cousin's or friend's camera roll forever and you're never going to see them—unless you take matters into your own hands. To solve this dilemma in one easy swoop, you need to check out Crossroad, an app that lets you create collaborative albums in a few taps. Login, create a Crossbook (shared album), invite the people you want to sync snapshots with, and add photos by hitting the big plus at the bottom of the screen. The pictures will then be synced on every participant's phone. You can also access the photos from any computer through a Web version of your Crossbook.



GOVBERG ON TIME

Platforms: Android, iOS

Aside from bringing you all the latest news from the wristwatch world, GovBerg On Time also allows you to manage and build your luxury collection, and buy, sell, and trade your timepieces with other collectors. You can add the watches you own into the "My Watch Box" feature so you can show them off to the world.



WITNESS

Platform: iOS

Keep a witness in your pocket and alert your emergency contacts when you find yourself in a compromised situation or when things get out of hand. When activated, the Witness app automatically calls and texts your location to a preset list of emergency contacts, and sends them a link to a live stream audio and video recording. To keep things discreet, the phone's screen remains dark so that it is not obvious that it is recording.



FAILPOP

Platform: iOS

Traveling is fun—except maybe if you get lost or unintentionally piss off a local. Fortunately, there's Failpop, an app that gives you the lowdowns and do's and don'ts of countries you're traveling to. Failpop also feeds you with fun facts and funny GIFs about the place you're visiting. More tips are added with the help of other users' suggestions and inputs.



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FREE

Dexter: Hidden Darkness

Platforms: Android, iOS

Based on the long-running television series, *Dexter: Hidden Darkness* puts you in the role of eponymous protagonist Dexter Morgan, a forensic blood spatter analyst for the Miami Metro Police Department investigating murder crime scenes for clues and evidence to pin down the perpetrators. But Dexter himself is also a serial killer who preys on other murderers, so you can opt to take matters into your own hands and take them down personally, permanently. Just don't get caught yourself.



\$14.99

This War of Mine

Platforms: Android, iOS

As the song goes, war is good for nothing—and in *This War of Mine* from 11 Bit Studios, it's no exaggeration as you lead a group of civilians to their survival. It won't be easy though, as tensions rise and the situation becomes more desperate by the minute, forcing you to make choices that'll test your humanity. It's a perspective often ignored in war games that *This War of Mine* makes its central focus, and it's quite effective.



FREE

MOUNTAIN GOAT MOUNTAIN

Platforms: Android, iOS

Just because it's a Zynga game doesn't mean it's just another me-too title. *Mountain Goat Mountain* is actually a fun and challenging isometric endless climbing game, with hazards aplenty to keep your goat light on its feet. Platformer elements such as launch ramps and hidden ledges add even more action, and the randomly generated levels mean a unique playthrough experience every time you start a new run. And the goats are just too cute to ignore, honestly.



\$2.99

REDDEN

Platforms: Android, iOS, Windows Phone

A unique and mischievous twist on the bullet time concept, *Redden* has you titling the scenery to direct projectiles to their intended target, ranging from arrows in feudal times to bullets in the modern era. And it's not just wanton and random violence either; the game is told entirely from the projectiles' perspectives, delving deep into their roles as tools of destruction. It's an unexpected yet intriguing concept that actually yields some interesting stories for good effect.



FREE

FOREST HOME

Platforms: Android, iOS, Windows Phone

A cutesy and deceptively simple puzzler, *Forest Home* has you tracing paths to guide lost critters towards their exit in gridded mazes. At first it's rather easy, but once the number of animals you need to guide onscreen start increasing and the maze restrictions become more cramped, the difficulty curve starts to spike since each animal's path cannot overlap the others'. *Forest Home* offers some challenging mental exercises underneath its folksy exterior.



FREE

STUNTMAN STUART

Platforms: Android, iOS

In *Stuntman Stuart*, you have but one goal: to get Stuart a role in the upcoming movie *Falling in Tokyo*. And it's a very simple audition, too. Just make sure he survives his accelerating descent by dodging obstacles and props on his way down. The catch is that if you fail, he dies. Horribly. Thankfully this is a 2D pixel sprite game, but it's still quite graphic to see Stuart impaled on a flagpole (to the director's dismay).



FREE

MILLION ARTHUR

Platforms: Android, iOS

Probably one of the more ambitious games hailing from Japan, online card battle RPG *Million Arthur* boasts intensely high production values with art, music, and a story from popular manga and anime creators and professionals. And the gameplay is not too shabby either, with systems for upgrading cards and evolving your army of knights to help your King Arthur defend Camelot from invaders, and fighting other players' Arthurs online for the fun of it.



\$7.99

RPG TEARS REVOLUDE

Platforms: Android, iOS

Old-school RPG gamers will find much to love in *RPG Tears Revolute*. Its combat system is very reminiscent of classic 16-bit Japanese role-playing games, such as the original *Phantasy Star* and *Lufia*, while the graphics and art feel like a throwback to the 32-bit era of the Sony PSone and Sega Saturn. If you want a taste of what RPGs were like back in the day, *RPG Tears Revolute* is quite the showcase.

STAR WARS: THE PURSE AWAKENS



As

someone who was old enough to experience *Star Wars* as a child, I'm still enthralled by everything that has to do with George Lucas' multiverse of characters, planets, and the constant struggle between the light and dark sides of the Force.

For many old school and new *Star Wars* fans, their patience is about to be rewarded this Christmas when *Episode VII (The Force Awakens)*, continues where the original trilogy left off—30 years ago.

Most of the original cast is still kicking around (sorry, no Billy Dee Williams) and they will be there in full force reprising their original roles. We will see an older Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia Organa, and Han Solo for sure, and while they are present mostly to pass on the torch to a newer cast of characters, many hope the transition will be smooth.

George Lucas signed away the *Star Wars* empire and rights to Disney, who did not waste any time in stirring up interest in *Star Wars*. A new cartoon, *Star Wars: Rebels*, features other characters; while some look very Disney-esque (like Aladdin), there's some connection to the larger cinematic universe.



GADIO CARDENAS
SEVILLA

Lucas was often criticized for milking the proverbial *Star Wars* cash cow for every Imperial Credit he could. Licensed merchandise was everywhere! From toys, video games, cereal, underwear, toothbrushes—you name it. The thing is, under Disney, the *Star Wars* commercialism will reach an exponential rate, and as fans, we will eat it up.



Disney's got the movies, TV shows, a large theme park, toys, clothing, apps—you name it. We've already seen some cool things like a Sphero robot BB-8 and remote control X-Wing and Millennium Falcon drones that you can fly. I've seen Kylo Ren lightsabers, Phasma costumes, and anything you can imagine Lego blocks could make.

Then there's a killer massive multiplayer video game in *Star Wars: Battlefront*, which puts you behind popular vehicles in the *Star Wars* universe and even allows you to play as Darth Vader or Luke Skywalker.

All of these really cool products are going to take their toll on our collective wallets. People my age who can afford these toys will buy them out of nostalgia. Younger generations of fans will want to start their own collections. There will be cheap knockoffs and Chinese contraband. And just wait 'til the fast food companies start bundling merchandise with kiddie meals. Everyone is going to want them.

Few properties are as encompassing and universally beloved as *Star Wars*, and fans are rabid, passionate, and loyal beyond belief (hey, we forgave them for the prequels, and for Jar-Jar).

We're going to be getting a whole lot of *Star Wars* in coming months and years. The best thing about this is that the new movies and TV shows aren't ever going to eclipse the original trilogy, which will likely get continued attention, either as the classics they are or as a barometer for how good the new installments will be.

There's also going to be a ton of merchandise with all the new and old characters—and we're not just talking toys. There's a lot of technology, apps, and mobile device tie-ins for sure, which means momentum for the franchise.

My hope is that the new movies manage to strike that balance—that they will be true to the canon and not too overtly designed to sell toys and merchandise. I also hope I can be prudent enough to check myself and not spend too much on all the enticing new *Star Wars* products coming to the market. May the Force be with me. [S](#)



PORTABLE PRO

Apple iPad Pro

The iPad bulks up to take on bigger computing tasks. With the launch of the iPad Pro with a 12.9-inch multi-touch Retina Display, Apple's tablet line moves closer to laptop computing.

Coming in November, the iPad Pro sports the new A9X 64-bit chip, which offers 1.8 times faster CPU performance and twice the graphics speed of the iPad Air 2. It has the familiar Touch ID, four high-fidelity speakers, and a Smart Connector to attach the Smart Keyboard accessory designed specially for the iPad Pro.

The iPad Pro comes equipped with 8MP rear iSight and 1.2MP FaceTime HD cameras, and Bluetooth 4.2 connectivity. The version with cellular capability supports LTE. But don't let the "pro" fool you into thinking that this is literally a heavyweight tablet. The 6.9mm-thin iPad Pro weighs only up to 723g.

Like the iPads before it, the iPad Pro comes in Wi-Fi (32GB: \$799; 128GB: \$949) and Wi-Fi + Cellular (128GB: \$1,079) variants, and Silver, Gold, and Space Gray options.

Soon, the Apple Pencil, "a pressure- and motion-sensing stylus built specifically for drawing and writing on Pro's copious screen real estate" will be available to accompany the tablet in your Apple arsenal.



Touch worthy

Apple iPhone 6s and 6s Plus



Words ARITHA ZEL ZALAMEA

TRUST APPLE TO ALWAYS MAKE A SLIGHT UPDATE ON A CURRENT IPHONE MODEL FOR ITS NEXT ITERATION—A NEW COLOR, OR PERHAPS A FEATURE OR TWO THAT SEEM SO SIMPLE YET SO ENTICING THAT YOUR BARELY ONE-YEAR-OLD IDEVICE SUDDENLY LOOKS AND FEELS JUST A TAD UNDESIRABLE.

With the release of the iOS 9-powered iPhone 6s and 6s Plus a year after their predecessors, Apple doesn't go far from its tree, as expected. But the new features make these smartphones quite appealing.

1 At 4.7 and 5.5 inches, respectively, the iPhone 6s and 6s Plus tote the same screen sizes as their previous-gen counterparts. Even the resolution (1334 x 750 and 1920 x 1080) and pixel density (326 and 401ppi) are unchanged.

2 The biggest update is the 3D Touch feature on the iPhone 6s and 6s Plus' displays. 3D Touch paves the way for "Peek and Pop" controls, a new way of initiating commands on the multi-touch Retina display. According to Apple, with this new technology, "a light press brings up a Peek mode preview of emails, addresses, photos and more without opening a separate app, [while] a deeper press pops said content into a corresponding app, for example a hard press on an address might open Maps."

3 The FaceTime camera gets a huge boost from the previous 1.2MP to the current generation's 5MP. It also now features Retina Flash, which is really a fancy way of saying that the Retina Display lights up three times to function as a front-facing flash.

4 Taking into consideration what the previous iPhones' 8MP iSight camera can do, imagine what you'll get out of the

new 12MP version in the iPhone 6s and 6s Plus. Here's another piece of great news about this iSight camera: you get 4K video recording capability that just begs you to level up your filmmaking game along with your photography skills.

5 It comes with a different name but this feature might look familiar: Live Photos. With this update on the rear camera, you don't just get a 12MP photo with every snap but a moving image that starts and ends a few seconds before and after you take the shot.

6 These two iPhones run the latest Apple mobile OS—iOS 9—which features Slide Over, Split View, and Picture in Picture. The A9 processor makes a debut in the iPhone 6s and 6s Plus. The 3rd-generation 64-bit chip should perform CPU and GPU tasks 70 percent and 80 percent faster, respectively, than the A8. The battery gets an extended lease on life as well.

7 The familiar gold, silver, and space gray metallic finish options are still available. If you have a hard time choosing from three, Apple makes it a little more fun for you with the addition of a rose gold variant.



Preparing to hit the waves? Make sure you have the right equipment with you.

Move with ease and purpose wearing the (1)**Arena board shorts** (P2,595) and the (2)**Arena rash guard** (P1,495). These boldly colored pieces work as hard as you do.

The (3)**Speedo Shine by Misfit** (\$79.99) is designed with swimmers in mind, but is meant to be worn for activities both in and out of water—like walking, running, cycling, and even sleeping. Made of durable aluminum, the Speedo Shine records your lap

count, swim distance, calories burned, and sleeping habits.

Download the Misfit app on your (4)**ASUS Zenfone 2 Laser ZE550KL** (P8,695) to track your progress. With ultra-thin edges and an ergonomic arc design, the Zenfone 2 Laser keeps you connected and on top of your game with its 5.5-inch 1280 x 720 HD display, 13MP rear and 5MP front snappers, 16GB built-in storage, and 2GB RAM.

To keep your things safe, pack them inside the (5)**Timberland duffle pack**. This versatile bag can be your handsome carry on for your surfing stuff or your trustworthy buddy when on the road.



3



4



5



How to woo women while you're trying to win businesses the world over? Style *a la* Mad Men's Don Draper.

Your go-to look consists of a tailored shirt and well-fitted pants. Pair a (1)**Perry Ellis Slim Fit Micro Check dress shirt** (P2,250) with (2)**Perry Ellis Slim Fit dress pants** (P2,950)—a simple ensemble yet easily styled with accessories.

Classic pieces to accent your impeccable style are a must. Strap on your wrist the (3)**Victorinox I.N.O.X. Steel watch**. Now with a steel

bracelet, you not only have a timepiece that withstood 130 resistance and durability tests, but can also pass the critical eyes of your associates. Match this with the green-brown leather (4)**Timberland Middle Branch color blocked passcase** that slips into your pocket effortlessly.

Impress the ladies with the size—and function—of your (5)**Samsung GALAXY Note5** (P36,990). A beautiful device to behold, the GALAXY Note5 is crafted with metal and glass, and equipped with powerhouse specs: a 5.7-inch Super AMOLED display, Android 5.1 Lollipop, an octa-core processor, and 16MP rear and 5MP front cameras.



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5



HIP MIXER

No after-party starts without you and your sick beats. You turn the room wild with your mad DJing skills and turn heads with your cool garb.

Keep your clothes laidback and let your music make a statement. Comfortable and functional, the (1)**O'Neill shirt** and (2)**O'Neill Exec Hybrid shorts** allow movement while you're up there on the booth.

Energize the crowd with your techno cuts using the (3)**Pioneer DJM-S9**. This professional two-channel battle mixer comes with customizable Magvel Pro crossfader, tactile performance pads, and FX buttons, so you can set it to suit your preference.

Add to your DJing arsenal the (4)**Obi Worldphone SF1** (\$199), which boasts a 5-inch floating high-res display, pixel-perfect 13MP rear camera, and superior audio courtesy of the fitted Dolby Audio Surround 7.1 speakers with noise cancelling feature. Don't let your device run out of juice. The 3000mAh (5)**UNU Ultrapak Go battery pack** (P4,000) can charge in just 15 minutes and still give you enough power throughout the day.

VIBE ON

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Volleyball MVP

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Capture your greatness with a smartphone that acts like a camera.

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-  **Manual shutter button** that wakes the camera for instant shots
-  **Dual shooting modes** with Auto and Pro settings



SRP P17,999

Free Back Cover
& Screen Protector

Lenovo VIBE Shot



Aspire S7 Ultrabook

Aspire V Nitro

Aspire R13

RUNWAY-READY

Acer Aspire S7, V Nitro, and R13

Words KATRINA RIVERE-DIGA

The line between fashion and technology has been visibly blurring for a while now, and it's a wonderful merging of design and innovation that we're seeing. Today, your stylish phone, laptop, smartwatch, or pair of headphones provides the perfect complement to your OOTD posts, and "fashionably techie" is no longer an oxymoron.

Acer's premium line of devices is nestled comfortably right at the intersection of fashion and technology. We take a look at three of these chic Windows 10 devices that prove that beauty and brains are not mutually exclusive.

Acer Aspire S7 Ultrabook

This 12.9mm-thin slender-but-strong Ultrabook features a display lid made of super-tough Corning Gorilla Glass and a dual-torque hinge that helps keep the display in place while you swipe and tap the screen.

The Aspire S7 Ultrabook (P79,990) is more than just a pretty face, mind you. It comes with a 1.8GHz 5th-gen Intel Core i7 processor with 8GB RAM, 13.3" Full HD display, and Dolby Digital Plus Home Theater audio enhancement software.

Acer Aspire V Nitro

A handsomely designed gaming laptop, the V Nitro uses Acer's panel imprint technology called soft-touch NIL with a durable, sleek metal finish and intricate patterns on the lid for added texture and tactile effect. The red glow of the backlit keyboard adds to the overall drama.

The roaring beast inside this P79,990 machine is an Intel Core i7 processor and NVIDIA GeForce GTX 860M with 4GB of dedicated GDDR5 VRAM. You also get a 17" Full HD display, Dolby Digital Plus Home Theater software, Acer CoolBoost technology, and quad speakers.

Acer Aspire R13

Acer's Exel Aero Hinge lets you easily fold and flip the Aspire R13 into six different positions, including the ability to reduce the notebook's footprint by pushing the display above the keyboard. The 13.3" touchscreen and its back cover are encased in two slices of Gorilla Glass 3. Intel Core i5, SSD storage, and Dolby Digital Plus Home Theater can be found under the hood of this P77,990 convertible.

Words JOHN SOSMEÑA



Purpose and poise
SAMSUNG GALAXY S6 edge+

As if the hype of Samsung's edgeless display wasn't enough, a new flagship enters the fray. The GALAXY S6 edge+ features the crowd-favorite dual edge Super AMOLED display, now even bigger at 5.7 inches, and boasts a Quad HD (2560 x 1440) resolution and 518ppi pixel density. The 4GB RAM is paired with an octa-core Exynos 7420 processor (2.1GHz quad + 1.5GHz quad). The 16MP rear and 5MP front cameras both have an aperture of f/1.9. The Gold Platinum and Silver Titanium color variants would make you a standout from the regular Android crowd.

Price: P39,990 (32GB); P44,990 (64GB)

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HS-M260
SRP: P525



HS-M225
SRP: P325



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Star Studding ASUS Zenfone Selfie

With the new Zenfone Selfie, you should never have to worry about poor photos again. With a 13MP camera on both the front and rear sides, you'd surely need a large storage for your photos. Fortunately, the Selfie comes with 16 or 32GB internal storage, 5GB free lifetime ASUS WebStorage, and microSD slot that supports up to 128GB. This LTE-compatible smartphone also features a Full HD 5.5-inch display protected by Corning Gorilla Glass 4, LTE capability, and 3000mAh Li-Polymer battery to keep your selfie-action alive for the whole day.

Price: P11,995

DIAMOND IN THE FLESH

OPPO Mirror 5

ALL FAB; NO DRAB.

The Mirror 5 features Android 5.1 Lollipop, 2GB RAM, a quad-core processor, and a microSD card that supports up to 128GB of expanded memory. Photos taken with the HDR-supported 8MP rear camera comes to life in the 5-inch screen that packs about 16 million colors. The shooter boasts Panorama, Super GIF, 11 various built-in filters, and double exposure.

Price: P9,990



Mirror 5

One G1

AFFORDABLE G-FORCE

Cherry Mobile One G1

SPORTING A 5-INCH HD IPS DISPLAY WITH CORNING GORILLA GLASS 4, the Cherry Mobile One G1 packs an octa-core Qualcomm Snapdragon chipset and 2GB RAM. Apps, files, and even photos taken with the 13MP rear camera should find a home in the 16GB internal storage. You can stay connected via 4G LTE, Wi-Fi, or Bluetooth 4.0 while surviving through a day of mobile computing powered by the 2500mAh built-in battery.

Price: P5,999

Words JOHN SOSMEÑA



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Medium format mammoth **LEICA S TYPE 007**

Nah, it's not designed after *that* M16 secret agent, but the Leica S Type 007 is an equally skilled shooter. Paying homage to the classic Leica S line, the S Type 007 hides wonders beneath its sleeve: a 37.5MP snapper, 30x45mm Leica CMOS sensor, and Leica Maestro II image processor. By stripping the optical low-pass filter from the sensor's design, the Leica S Type 007 now produces crisper detail and enhanced resolution. In action, it can shoot images at 3.5fps and 4K videos at 24fps. Dressed in a weather-sealed magnesium alloy body, this medium format DSLR goes about its daily grind armed with a 3-inch 921.6k-dot LCD monitor.

Price: \$25,400



SUBTLE SNIPER

Olympus OM-D E-M10 Mark II

SNAP STREET PHOTOGRAPHS UNDETECTED WITH THE OLYMPUS OM-D E-M10 MARK II. Designed for beginners and enthusiasts, this light and retro-looking camera can shoot superb images via its 16.1MP Micro Four Thirds Live MOS Sensor and TruePic VII image processor. Its Silent Mode allows you to creep in for a perfect candid shot of the busy urban streets. Never miss the decisive moment with its 8.5fps shooting capability, while saving you from unwanted shake is its 5-axis image stabilization. Also integrated into this shooter is a 2.36m-dot OLED electronic viewfinder, 3-inch 1.04m-dot tilting LCD, built-in Wi-Fi connectivity, full HD 60fps video recording, and 4K time lapse shooting capability.

Price: \$649.99 (body only); \$799.99 (with lens)



THE FREE-SPIRITED'S GIZMO

Lomo'Instant Montenegro edition

HEED THE CALL OF THE GRAND OUTDOORS AND SLIP LOMOGRAPHY'S TRAVEL-INSPIRED LOMO'INSTANT MONTENEGRO EDITION RIGHT IN YOUR TRAVEL BACKPACK. Giving you shooting flexibility on the road is its built-in 27mm wide angle lens and three additional lens options: a 170-degree fisheye, 35mm portrait, and 10-15cm close-up. Drum up the adventure by creating swankier shots with Lomography's Splitzer and a variety of color flash gels, all while using Fujifilm Instax Mini film. Create your own light painting by the beach side through its long exposure capability; or shoot perfectly exposed landscape via its multiple-exposure mode. But never end the escapade without playing with its multiple flash modes and aperture settings that can be adjusted from f/8 to f/22.

Price: \$179

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Walk on high **SONY Walkman NW-ZX2**

Sony flexes its serious Walkman muscle once again with the NW-ZX2 hi-res digital media player. This FLAC-, WMA-, MPEG-4-, and MP3-playing son of a gun delivers up to 33 hours of continuous hi-res audio or 60 hours of the lowly kind of digital files. The 128GB built-in storage, which is expandable via microSD/SDHC/SDXC, promises enough room for your music library, while the gold-plated copper chassis inside ensures that low frequencies give you a powerful punch each time. If you're ready to climb that stairway to HRA heaven, grab one for P52,999.



Hear the sound **SONY MDR-1ADAC**

So, you got a cool vinyl collection or a hi-res digital audio player that costs more than a second-hand car. Don't stop there. Skip the earphones that came with your smartphone and order yourself a decent pair of high-fidelity headphones such as the Sony MDR-1ADAC. Equipped with a built-in digital-analog converter, the MDR-1ADAC gives you an advantage by boosting sound volume and quality when the DAC is turned on. With a frequency response range of 4-40,000Hz on digital and -100,000Hz on analog output, the headphones feature a 24ohm impedance supported well by a 40mm dynamic driver.
Price: P17,599



HANDCRAFTED SOUND

Davone Ray-S

THE RAY-S IS A BEAUTIFUL FLOORSTANDING LOUDSPEAKER THAT PROMISES NEUTRAL TONAL RESPONSE AND EXPLOSIVE DYNAMICS. The frequency response range of 37-30,000Hz should meet your auditory needs. What's inside one beautiful walnut-finished beech wood cabinet? An eight-inch woofer, a one-inch silk dome tweeter, and a four-inch midrange driver mirrored in the other cabinet for balance. With the 25mm-thick solid steel stand that keeps it stable, the Davone Ray-S weighs in at 27kg for solid frequency resistance and whole, rich sound.
Price: \$8,600

Words ARITHA ZEL ZALAMEA

Pioneer

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Power pedals

HNF HEISENBERG XF1

Long-distance biking has never looked sexier with HNF Heisenberg's new BMW-patented XF1 full suspension e-mountain bike. Equipped with a Rolhoff Speedhub 500/14, RockShox Pike RC 140mm fork, Magura MT7 disc brakes, and Busch & Muller Lumotec IQ Avy headlight, the XF1 is a monster on the road. The e-mountain bike features even axle load distribution, maintenance-free belt drive, and no pedal recoil.

Price: \$9,225

**ONE-TWO PUNCH****Startrac Boxmaster**

AN EVERYDAY SPARRING PARTNER FOR ALL THE STRIKING NEEDS YOUR COACH REQUIRES, THE STARTRAC BOXMASTER MAKES SURE YOU DON'T MISS A PUNCH IN YOUR TRAINING.

With 12 striking pads at strategic positions and fitted with spring-arm designed strike absorption, the Boxmaster promises to make your boxing improve from every angle. The equipment also comes with adjustable towers and pads to adapt to heights between 5' and 6'10. Expect to feel results via a seven-round, 30-minute program.

Words JOHN SOSMEÑA



VELOCI



PULSE
Collection

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SM DEPARTMENT STORE • ROBINSONS DEPARTMENT STORE • L TIMESTUDIO



Squeaky spotless **BLACK & DECKER** Powered Squeegee Vac

A new cleaner wants you to get rid of that large pail and foamy, soaped sponge you use when cleaning your car's windshield. Black & Decker's Powered Squeegee Vac is the newest machine designed to simplify the task of cleaning mirrors, windows, glasses, and other similar surfaces.

Thanks to an integral spray working in tandem with a powered squeegee, you should be able to easily apply cleaning agents and rinse it off using water from the built-in reservoir. An 11-inch-wide blade paired with a microfiber scrubbing pad wipes off the grime. Finally, a lithium-powered suction absorbs the remaining water to leave your glass window or windshield squeaky clean.

Price: \$70

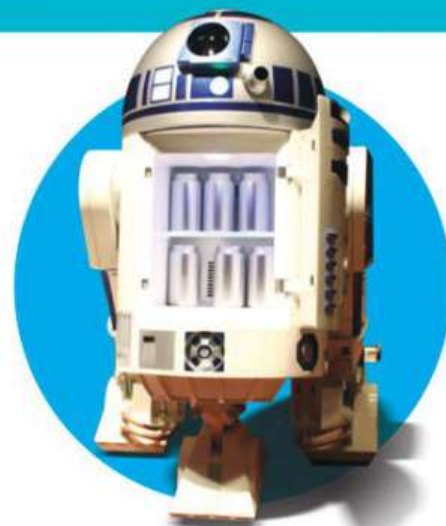


COME OUT CLEAN LG TurboWash and TurboShot washers

Busy professionals who want to reduce long weekend hours spent on laundry chores without compromising cleanliness can now pin hopes on these front-load and top-load washers with LG's TurboWash and TurboShot technology.

The TurboWash technology for LG's front-load washers provides a 3 Way TurboWash feature, which promises to accomplish an hour's laundry within 45 minutes or even 15 minutes (for a kilo of laundry) when using the speed washing function.

LG's top-load washers maximize the TurboShot technology that uses rapid drum motion and waterfall-like jets to permeate deep into clothing fabric, helping dissolve detergents more efficiently, remove tougher stains, and cut back on energy and water consumption.



DANDY DROID Haier Asia R2-D2 refrigerator

Star Wars fans, brace for the coming of R2-D2! He's now out of the big screen, moving on his robotic wheels, and, uh, serving drinks.

Haier Asia recently developed under its AQUA brand a prototype of an R2-D2-inspired fridge that mimics the loved mini-robots' movement—from rotating head turns to resounding beeps and sliding mobility. This machine has enough room to keep about a dozen cans cool, and being battery-operated and remote controlled, can deliver drinks right to you. Now all you need is a personal CP30 attire to complete the nostalgic set.

Words: ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN



AMPED UP APPLIANCES

LG SmartThinQ sensor

Transform your age-old appliances into smart, Web-connected wares with LG's SmartThinQ sensor.

The SmartThinQ sensor is a round piece of device with temperature and motion sensors that can be attached to most household appliances regardless of brand, including refrigerators, washing machines, and air conditioners. With this sensor attached, you can receive status updates from your appliances through the SmartThinQ app.

If you connect the SmartThinQ sensor to your washing machine, it will alert you once your laundry's done. To determine whether your wife is ruining her doctor-prescribed late night diet, try attaching the sensor to your refrigerator to obtain feedback on how many times the door gets opened.



ZEN IN A CUP

Stelton Theo Coffee Maker

Missing the traditional, slowly roasted coffee in an era when everything's going instant and fast-paced? A new brewer wants to reintroduce the art of slow-brewing back to our caffeinated hearts.

Stelton's Theo Coffee Maker is the perfect machine for the coffee lover in you who want your cup unhurriedly crafted to perfection. This brewer adorns a minimalist and traditional-looking form factor—a matte stoneware frame styled with a shiny glaze and matched with a bamboo lid—that entices you to a meditative mood.

The Theo Coffee Maker can brew up to 0.6 liter of coffee, enough for 1 or 2 persons. Its coffee pot comes with a collar of heat-insulating silicone, providing better grip and avoiding unwanted burns.

Words ANTONIO JOSE GALURAN



Controlled cooling NEST THERMOSTAT (3rd GEN)

Nest's 3rd-generation Thermostat wants you to cut back on energy consumption (and your bill expenses) without sacrificing comfort.

This latest smart thermostat by Nest integrates a Farsight feature that prompts the device to flash temperature and time only whenever you walk into the room. It can self-program the temperature, detecting the time of day when you need the most warmth or coolness based on your usage pattern. Customize the temperature right from your mobile phone's Nest app.

Price: \$249



Drive bold 2015 CHRYSLER 300C

Bearing the soul and attitude of the breakthrough 1955 and 2005 Chrysler 300 models, the new 2015 300C delivers a more confident look and bolder stance with its redesigned grille, bumper, and lower intake, and 20-inch aluminum shoes. Lighting the way are bi-xenon HID headlamps with integrated LED daytime running lights. The rear, meanwhile, is fitted with distinctive LED taillights, a large bumper, twin exhaust pipes, and a lip spoiler.

Inside, you get quilted Nappa leather, hand-sanded wood, and Poltrona Frau leather-wrapped instrument panel and console. A seven-inch driver information display replaces the traditional instrument

dials, while an 8.4-inch touchscreen display serves as the main hub for your entertainment needs, including the ability to play a variety of audio formats that's blasted through a 9-speaker Alpine sound system with subwoofer. There's also an electronic rotary transmission shifter and a new three-spoke steering wheel with die-cast paddle shifters.

Safety features include forward collision warning, lane departure warning with lane keep assist, and adaptive cruise control.

The 2015 Chrysler 300C is powered by a 286hp 3.6-liter Pentastar V6 engine mated to an 8-speed automatic transmission.

Price: P3,550,000



AWARD-WINNING Volkswagen Passat

THE 2015 EUROPEAN CAR OF THE YEAR IS COMING TO SHOWROOMS THIS MONTH. Meet the Volkswagen Passat, an understated midsize luxury sedan that boasts of German build quality and a 42-year pedigree.

The Passat features German-tuned driving dynamics and a 2.0 TSI engine that generates 217hp and is managed by a 6-speed dual-clutch Direct Shift Gearbox (DSG) transmission.

The Philippines gets two variants: the Business Edition and the Highline trim. Both come with three-zone Climatronic air-conditioning, park distance control, XDS differential lock, keyless-go system, and 8-speaker audio system.

The top-of-the-line Business Edition is equipped with LED headlamps and taillamps, and 18-inch alloy wheels.

Words KATRINA RIVERE-DIGA



WILD TRUCK

2016 Ford Ranger

FORD'S TOUGH AND SMART TRUCK RECEIVES AN UPGRADE, NOW WITH AN EVEN BOLDER GRILLE AND IMPOSING PROJECTOR HEADLAMPS.

The Wildtrak variant ups the drama with dark trim elements on the grille, side mirrors, door handles, bed rails, and tail lamps.

The 2016 Ranger features the new SYNC II system and, in the top spec Wildtrak, a partially digital instrument panel (the XLT gets analog gauges). The Wildtrak also gets leather seats while the XLT gets fabric. All Wildtrak variants come with front and rear parking sensors and ESP or Electronic Stability Program. The range-topping Wildtrak 3.2 adds Lane Keeping Assist and Lane Keeping Aid, Adaptive Cruise Control, and Forward Alert.

Powering the new Ranger is a 2.2-liter Duratorq diesel engine. If you want more horsepower and torque, you can get the 3.2-liter Wildtrak models. You also get a choice between a 6-speed manual or automatic transmission for all variants.

Prices start at P709,000 for the 2.2 4x2 Cab & Chassis MT and go all the way to P1,679,000 for the 3.2 4x4 Wildtrak AT.



STAY CONNECTED

Belkin Car Vent Mount for iPhone and Car Universal Mount

KEEP YOUR PHONE COMFORTABLY WITHIN REACH WHILE YOU'RE DRIVING WITH THESE TWO MOUNTS FROM BELKIN. The Belkin Car Vent Mount securely positions your iPhone on your vehicle's air vent. It rotates 360 degrees and comes with a cable holder on the back of the mount to keep wires neatly connected to your device.

The Car Universal Mount, on the other hand, fits most devices—from the smallest phones to 6-inch phablets. You can mount it to your windshield or dashboard, and tilt and rotate the cradle 360 degrees.



Facelifted MPV TOYOTA Avanza

There's a new Avanza in town, and it sports not just a refreshed exterior, but also new engines for both 1.5- and 1.3-liter variants.

The 1.3-liter K3-VE engine produces 90hp at 6,000rpm and 117Nm at 4,400rpm while the 1.5-liter 3SZ-VE generates 102hp at 6,000rpm and 136Nm at 4,400rpm. Both engines are mated to either a 5-speed manual or 4-speed automatic transmission.

The new Avanza has a more prominent face dominated by a large grille. Other facelifts include redesigned headlamps and bumper, as well as 15-inch alloy wheels (for the 1.5G trim).

Inside, you get darker shades of brown and gray depending on the variant, a meter gauge with an eco-indicator, and navigation-ready touchscreen display for G variants.

Safety features include side door impact beams and SRS airbags, and all variants now include ABS with EBD, as well as ISOFIX and tether anchor to keep the little ones secure.



Here are the prices of the 2015 Toyota Avanza:

1.5G AT
P910,000
1.5G MT
P869,000
1.3E AT
P797,000
1.3E MT
P756,000
1.3J MT
P667,000

The exotic, rare and exquisite Starbucks Reserve® Coffees

Starbucks coffee buyers have developed deep relationships throughout the coffee growing world and travel the globe in search of some of the finest and rarest coffees. In their travels, our buyers occasionally discover exceptional coffees available in limited quantities. The Starbucks Reserve® coffees grant customers the opportunity to discover the unique flavors of these exotic locations.

Starbucks Reserve® showcases our passion, expertise and experience in coffee. Befitting this coffee are of course, the world's finest preparation methods including the Clover® brewing system.

This is a coffee brewing system that uses innovative Vacuum-Press™ technology to create your cup right in front of you. It controls brew time and temperature digitally, as even small changes here can dramatically affect the outcome you taste in the cup. The coffee itself flows into your cup – hot, aromatic and amazingly flavorful.

We're pretty sure it will be the finest cup of coffee you've ever tasted.



STARBUCKS RESERVE®





59

Fairest of them all

FUJIFILM X-T10

GEEK METER



63 2015 MAZDA 6



64 Xenoblade
Chronicles 3D



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PRODUCT TEST NO.
1694

Stellar shooter

LENOVO Vibe Shot

● Review by ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN

THE NUMBERS

Display

5.0-inch 1080 x 1920 441ppi capacitive IPS LCD

OS

Android 5.0.2

Lollipop

CPU

1.7GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 and 1.0GHz quad-core Cortex-A53

Memory

32GB internal, microSD up to 128GB, 3GB RAM

Camera

16MP rear, 8MP front

Connectivity

LTE, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.1, microUSB 2.0, GPS, A-GPS

Price

P17,999



DIMENSIONS
142 x 70 x 7.3mm, 145g

Lenovo attempts to fuse a powerful smartphone and a manual shooting-capable camera in one of its latest devices boldly named Vibe Shot, a proud testament to its shooting prowess. Will the device live up to its name or fall off the mire of false advertising? Today, we end the speculation and see what it has to offer.

The screen is one of the best Lenovo has come up with to date, showing outstanding color reproduction, vivid images, and remarkable contrast in Full HD. The screen, protected by Corning Gorilla Glass 3, feels so smooth that I sometimes find myself just swiping the screen for no reason.

While every brand is going the slim way with their new releases, Lenovo chooses not to jump into the bandwagon on this one. Instead, it gives the Vibe Shot a box type frame. Despite being 7.3mm-thick, the overall design is elegant-looking, light, and highly comfortable to carry around.

The Vibe Shot's cameras do not disappoint, giving off highly vivid images even in low-light. I am a DSLR user, but there were times during press events that I felt safe in using the Vibe Shot alone for online posting. However, upon closer inspection, I also noticed that its camera highly relies on the image processor, showing a disparity between how the image looks before you press the shutter and how it appears after processing. Lenovo may want to work on this imbalance because taking videos in low-light reveals this slight weakness.

While the Vibe Shot is designed with a shutter button in its side frame, it is nothing special to rave about unless you like the sensation of shooting via a clicker similar to a point-and-shoot camera. An option to shoot in auto mode and pro (manual) mode is fancy, but you'll still have to tap the screen to manually adjust exposure settings—quite a hassle in my opinion.

Its performance is a breeze even with multiple apps on. At this price point, the Vibe Shot's processor and 3GB RAM combination matches more expensive smartphones in the market.

SPEED SAYS

After spending only a few days with the Lenovo Vibe Shot, I now barely want to part with this device. If I was looking for a midrange phone, the Vibe Shot would definitely be high above my list as it scores well on every category, sporting powerful specs and a superb camera that can compete with more expensive phones in the market but is being offered at a fare midrange price.

GEEK METER



PRODUCT TEST NO.
1695

THE NUMBERS

Display4-inch 1136 x 640
326ppi**OS**

iOS 8

CPUA8 64-bit
processor,
M8 motion
coprocessor**Memory**16/32/64/128GB
internal storage**Camera**8MP rear iSight,
1.2MP front
FaceTime HD**Connectivity**Wi-Fi, Bluetooth
4.1, 3.5mm stereo
jack, Lightning
connector**Price**

Starts at \$199

**DIMENSIONS**
123.4 x 58.6 x
6.1mm, 88g

Closest thing to an iPhone

APPLE iPod touch

● Review by GADJO CARDENAS SEVILLA

With the venerable iPod classic put out to pasture, the only large-capacity iPod option right now is the iPod touch, which brings parity with the iPhone 6 in terms of processing power, camera size, and storage of up to 120GB for all your music and videos.

Available in a variety of new colors including a vibrant new blue hue, the new Apple iPod touch looks almost identical to its 2012 predecessor and should fit the variety of cases and accessories from the older touch models.

I was amazed and delighted at the detail and clarity of the photos. For a device that is so thin and light, it is quite remarkable what this can pull off. Add in all the access to various iOS camera, editing, and sharing apps and the iPod touch becomes a serious, connected, and capable standalone camera with oodles of onboard storage and a direct pipeline into the Apple ecosystem.



With a more powerful processor, it has the ability to run most apps as well as an iPhone and would even qualify as one of the thinnest and lightest handheld computers ever made.

SPEED SAYS

For music lovers, the latest, higher-capacity Apple iPod touch can carry all the music you'd want to keep while being the perfect conduit for streaming entertainment from a variety of sources. This is really the closest that an existing iPod touch has gotten to an iPhone in specs and features.

GEEK METER



Being a Wi-Fi-enabled media player makes the iPod touch the ideal Apple Music device, but it is really so much more than that. The other iPods (nano and shuffle) can't access Apple Music, but the touch can do so easily, and also run Spotify, Tidal, Google Music, Rdio, and many other services.

There are some aspects of the iPod touch that could have used an upgrade. The biggest of these is the onboard speaker. I get that it is an iPod first, designed to be used with Apple EarPods or Beats headphones, but there are times when none of these are around and you just want to listen to music or a podcast. It would be great if Apple did something to boost the sound quality and loudness.

The iPod touch is really the perfect Trojan horse to Apple's various ecosystems without the high price of an iPhone. It is great for Messages and FaceTime and does a good job at more demanding video games (although the 4-inch display now feels so small). iCloud services and apps also work well.

PRODUCT TEST NO.
1696

Solid alternative

XIAOMI Mi 4i

● Review by ARITHA ZEL ZALAMEA

THE NUMBERS

Display5-inch 1080p
441ppi Sharp/JDI,
Corning Gorilla
Glass**OS**Android 5.0
Lollipop**CPU**1.7GHz octa-
core Qualcomm
Snapdragon 615
processor**Memory**16GB internal
storage, 2GB RAM**Camera**13MP rear, 5MP
front**Connectivity**LTE, Wi-Fi,
Bluetooth 4.1**Price**

P9,799



Instead of ending the wait for the flagship Mi 4, Xiaomi decided to bring in the Mi 4i. Although what the midrange Mi 4i promises is a far cry from what the Mi 4 offers on paper and in spirit, it is still worth a good look.

The rear camera is superb and performs much better than many of the more expensive smartphones on the market today. The photos show clarity, detail, and an impressive depth of field. Even videos recorded on this camera have realistic colors and a natural-looking white balance.

This is a 5-inch screen, but it isn't obvious when looking at the small body of the Mi 4i. The bezel on each side is kept to a minimum, while the top and bottom elongations make room for the front-facing camera and the capacitive menu buttons.

SPEED SAYS

We've all been waiting for the flagship model, but the Xiaomi Mi 4i proves to be worth your time and money just as much. It offers a solid performance in an equally solid body that tells you it will last for a decent period. The price is just a tad lower than the previous flagship's and so that might warrant second thoughts, but the Mi 4i proves that it is capable of much more than other models within its price range.

The Mi 4i has a sturdy build. It feels strong and tough despite being made of plastic. The device is lightweight but not too much that you'd be scared to hold it. However, I find the finish too smooth that the unit easily slips through my hand sometimes.

Images appear very clear on the display and colors look fantastic. The screen is responsive and doesn't bend to my hard taps. The protective glass seems to be doing a fine job.

The Mi 4i launches apps and multitasks like a real boss. Its computing performance doesn't throw the Mi 4 and the Mi 3 out of the water. But at this price point, you probably won't find anything better.

While the Mi 3, Xiaomi's previous flagship model, still seems like the better model, the Mi 4i benefits greatly from having dual SIM and dual LTE support.

GEEK METER





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PRODUCT TEST NO.
1697

Top-notch picture

LG Super UHD TV 55UF950T

● Review by PAT CALICA

THE NUMBERS

Screen

55-inch 3840 x 2160 Super UHD TV

OS

WebOS 2.0

Speaker

4.2-channel speaker system with ultra surround

Connectivity

2 x USB 2.0, 1 x USB 3.0, LAN port, 4 x HDMI, Wi-Fi

Power

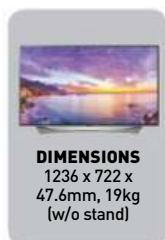
AC 100-240V, 50/60Hz

Accessories

Magic remote, 4 x 3D glasses

Price

P199,990



DIMENSIONS

1236 x 722 x 47.6mm, 19kg (w/o stand)

From idiot boxes to smart screens, television technology has come a long way in terms of functionality, design, and picture quality. From 4K displays and multi-connectivity to a wide range of content to view and access, this generation of TVs is, without a doubt, way more capable than your old boob tube. The catch: they cost way more expensive, too.

But in case *you* have money stashed somewhere in your house or are just naturally interested, here's our experience with one of the latest smart TVs in the market—the LG Super UHD TV 55UF950T.

Top-class picture quality. Need we say more? There were no backlight bleeding issues, and the TV has no problem upscaling SD quality content. The LG 55UF950T has a gamut of picture settings and mode options for adjusting the picture quality according to your preference.

There are four HDMI ports, so you can have one for a set-top box, another for a streaming device, and two extra ports for your other connectivity needs (e.g., gaming consoles). It would have been better, however, if LG fitted two USB 3.0 ports instead of one.

We supplied our own 4K content since there's hardly anything available on TV. But aside from that, this Super UHD TV does a great job displaying 4K. The colors are bright with balanced blacks and whites; the images are smooth all throughout.

SPEED SAYS

The LG Super UHD TV 55UF950T is one of the best televisions in the market today in terms of picture quality, interface design, and performance. If it weren't so expensive, we'd be handing out 'buy this' pamphlets for this LG TV right now.

GEEK METER



The LG Super UHD TV looks uber premium that you'd surely want it in your living room. The TV's slim form factor is complemented by the thin bezels in metallic finish and the crescent-shaped stand. And if you're already spending much on a television, why not get one that looks every peso spent?

The magic remote is pretty straightforward to use; it works like a computer mouse. No need to worry about response lags as the cursor on the screen is quite sensitive to the movement of the remote.

LG's WebOS is a sight for sore eyes thanks to the interface's flat and intuitive design. It works well with the magic remote, too—very responsive and smooth. Local apps like iWanTV are also available, but the library of apps in LG's app store still has a long way to go.

There are also a lot of options in adjusting the audio settings of the LG 55UF950T—six audio modes, noise-canceling, surround sound effect, plus other features. The speakers are not too loud; it is just right that there's no need for a separate audio system.





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Sarabia optical, Unique Vision Center, Bono Optical Cebu, EyeCrafter, Lee Super Plaza, Abby Optical, Optical Eyecheck Iligan City, Specs CDO, St. Jude CDO and Star Finder;
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Sta. Lucia, Ayala Cebu, Cagayan De Oro, Sportmart Dutyfree Fiesta Mall, T3 Fashion Rack and Ayala Fairview,
Royal Sporting House Festival Mall, Robinson's Ermita, Landmark Trinoma, Rustan's Shangri-La and Gateway; Cinderella Glorietta 3 and City Golf Ortigas;
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SM Department Store Megamall, SM Aura, SM North, SM Megamall, SM Southmall, SM Marikina, SM Sta. Rosa, SM Cubao, Mall of Asia,
SM Bacolod, SM San Mateo, SM Davao, SM Lanang, SM Cebu and SM La Consolacion

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PRODUCT TEST NO.
1698

THE NUMBERS

Output
3W
Connectivity
Bluetooth,
microUSB
Price
P2,950

Affordable alternative

BOOMPODS Double Blaster

● Review by JOHN SOSMEÑA

Ensuring that I never have a dull moment on my lonesome travels, I always have music accessible to me. What's good about the BoomPods Double Blaster is that it is light and easy to use, making it perfect for day-to-day music needs.



For its size, this Bluetooth speaker sounds pretty good and delivers loud audio. I had the pleasure of taking it around the apartment while my music source is in the

middle of the room. Most of the time, the Double Blaster did its job and filled the room. The difficulty in handling deep bass is expected, but for a 3W speaker, I'd say it is a cut above the usual Bluetooth kind.

I enjoyed how mobile the speakers allowed me to be without compromising much of my listening experience. The BoomPods' Bluetooth connectivity is reliable and doesn't reduce sound quality. However, the 10-meter radius that it claims is pushing it. The sound can break and get choppy nearing that mark.

SPEED SAYS

The BoomPods Double Blaster is not a bad deal at all. For everyday listening without worrying about the hassle of bringing along heavy hi-fi speakers, the Double Blaster is an alternative you can live with and afford.

GEEK METER

PRODUCT TEST NO.
1699

THE NUMBERS

Diaphragm
Metal composite
Conductor
Enameled copper wire
Impedance
16ohm
Frequency
20-20,000Hz
Sensitivity
93dB
Max power
20mW
Price
approx. P1,000

Concert in your head

XIAOMI Mi In-Ear Headphones (3rd-gen)

● Review by ARITHA ZEL ZALAMEA

I'm no fan of the in-ear configuration, but the 2nd-gen Mi In-Ear Headphones (called Piston in some markets) got me to bear the discomfort because of how good it sounded. And after updating to an ergonomic, angled design in the 3rd-gen model, Xiaomi is making me see the light once again.



Without even finishing your first song through these headphones, you'd already hear the difference in audio quality, clarity, and volume, and believe me, the experience is life-changing. It is like hearing music for

the first time—only, it is now playing live from inside your head.

This is the perfect cost-effective tool to enrich your hi-fi listening experience. The acoustics is spectacular, and the amount of detail carried through this Xiaomi pair could make you fall in love with music even more. I pitted this against more expensive headphones—from top brands to audiophiles' favorite alternatives—and the Xiaomi held its own.

To nitpick, the lowest, strongest of bass can break a little at extended vibrato and very high volume, but with everything else flying out of the park, you can *Rage Against the Machine* on this device all the way home. If rap rock isn't your cup of tea, go play your Jeff Buckley FLAC discography; you've probably never heard his "Corpus Christi Carol" sound this good before. Watch out for goosebumps.

SPEED SAYS

Xiaomi's Mi In-Ear Headphones (3rd-gen) must be the best-sounding headphones at this price point, and several thousand pesos beyond it, delivering outstanding sound definition. Perhaps the most affordable yet high-end-sounding pair you can get your hands on today, the Mi In-Ear Headphones turns your head into an arena and brings the live concert between your ears.

GEEK METER



PRODUCT TEST NO.
1700

Fairest of them all

FUJIFILM X-T10

● Review by RON CRUZ

THE NUMBERS

Sensor

16MP X-Trans CMOS II APS-C

Lens

Fujinon 16-50mm
f/3.5-5.6

Display

3-inch 920K-dot
tilt-type LCD,
0.39-inch
2.360K-dot EVF

Storage

SD/SDHC/SDXC
(UHS-I)

Video

Full HD 1920 x
1080

Connectivity

Wi-Fi, HDMI,
microUSB, mic,
stereo

Price

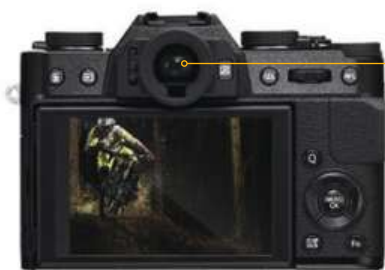
P40,990
(body only)



DIMENSIONS
40.8 x 118.4 x
82.8mm, 331g

One of the emerging trends with cameras these days is taking the flagship model and porting it into a smaller, cheaper body. Fujifilm's much regarded X-T1 gets this treatment with the introduction of the X-T10, which still sports the same sensor and processor as the former. While the X-T10 is obviously a stripped down version of its older brother, the question that begs to be asked is whether the X-T10 can pull its own weight where it counts the most. Let's see how it fares!

To get a slimmer silhouette, a few dials of the X-T1 were shaved off for the X-T10. While this made the camera thinner and more portable, losing out on the dedicated ISO dial of the X-T1 was a shame as it was a really convenient ease of life tool. That problem aside, the X-T10 is a joy to use. The front and rear grips are smaller but still do their job in giving firm control of the camera.



While armchair critics might deem that the X-T10's 16MP sensor as too low and too old by today's standards, you can't argue with results. Given its performance in low light and high ISO ranges, the X-T10's sensor blows other APS-C-sized sensors out of the water. The sensor is admittedly dated on paper, but in practice, where it counts the most, the X-T10 delivers no holds barred punches.



The kit lens that comes with the X-T10 has a body and barrel made almost entirely out of plastic, keeping the whole kit lightweight and portable. Its focal range covers the most important ranges from wide angle to medium telephoto, making it a worthy companion while traveling. The lens has an internal AF micro-motor, which gives you noise-free focusing. This lens is far from the best but a good starting point when diving into the world of Fuji.

One of the biggest draws of the Fujifilm X-T1 was its weather-sealed body, something that the X-T10 does not offer. Even without this extra layer of protection, however, the X-T10 feels sturdy and reliably solid. It has a nice heft to it and can gamely withstand the abuse and rigors of daily use. One thing to note about the X-T10 though is that it is made in Thailand and not in Japan like most of Fujifilm's top-of-the-line gear.

One of the most complained about problems Fuji has had with its cameras is with the autofocus. The Fujifilm X-T10 took this into consideration and made up for its siblings' shortcomings, giving you a faster AF system with more tracking points and new features such as face and eye detection. Continuous focusing, which used to perform poorly, has been greatly improved. When Continuous Zone AF is toggled on, the camera will always show you what is in focus in real time, even with moving subjects.

Since the X-T10 uses the same X-Trans CMOS II sensor and processing engine as the universally loved X-T1, you can expect nothing but the best in image quality. Even when using very high ISOs, the X-T10 still delivers. You'd be hard pressed to find noticeable noise even at ISO 6400, which is quite a feat for any camera. If you're feeling a little bit artsy, the X-T10 also offers 8 different film simulation modes to emulate films from Fujifilm's storied past.

SPEED SAYS

The compromises you make from opting for the Fujifilm X-T10 instead of the X-T1 aren't that glaring. As opposed to other "mini me" cameras, the stripping down doesn't hobble the X-T10 at all, making it a very, very good pickup. This camera delivers the same high-quality images as the flagship X-T1 at quite a sizable discount. Simply put, the Fujifilm X-T10 is one of the best cameras currently in the market.

GEEK METER



PRODUCT TEST NO.
1701

THE NUMBERS

Connectivity

Bluetooth, aux in, USB

Battery

4000mAh

Weight

816g

Price

P5,850

Bad and burly

BRAVEN Balance

● Review by ARITHA ZEL ZALAMEA

Here's a new addition to the countless Bluetooth speakers in the market. But what sets the Braven Balance apart from the pack is a combination of good looks, strong body, and loud, booming voice.

The Braven Balance comes in eye-popping colors with a matte, rubberized finish that tells you it's ready for action. The body is well-built, so you won't feel afraid to get rugged with it,

which is what Braven expects you to do. It has an IPX7 rating, which means you can fully submerge the speaker to a depth of 1m without rendering it useless.

The heavy weight is partly due to the speaker's large battery, promising up to 18 hours of music and standing in as a power bank for your devices. The Balance's size and weight make it an option not for everyday portable use, but for hanging out and sharing music for long periods.

The sound seems muffled at first, but you'd later on realize that what the Balance does a good job of is sustaining a full and round sound. A strong bass doesn't break it nor do midrange and high frequencies push the sound to become tinny, which isn't the norm among Bluetooth speakers. This Braven is built for sharing music, and so the 20W power output allows you to get loud.

SPEED SAYS

The Braven Balance is a fantastic Bluetooth speaker for its price. It delivers quality sound, has a solid body, looks fantastic, and is submersible underwater. The Balance may not be small and light, but it serves its purpose well.

GEEK METER

PRODUCT TEST NO.
1702

THE NUMBERS

Display

5.5-inch 720 x 1280 267ppi IPS LCD

OS

Android 4.4 KitKat

CPU

1.3GHz quad-core MediaTek MT6582 processor

Memory

16GB internal, microSD up to 64GB, 2GB RAM

Camera

13MP rear,

5MP front

Connectivity

Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, A-GPS

Dimensions

154 x 78 x 8.5mm, 161g

Price

P9,990

TV-touting toy

STARMOBILE Knight Vision

● Review by ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN

As the first-ever Filipino-branded Android smartphone with a built-in Digital TV receiver, the Starmobile Knight Vision delivers good feeds on a number of local channels, albeit having a rather inconsistent signal detection; there is barely a signal indoors.

Once you're connected though, playback runs smoothly with a pretty decent quality.

Setting aside its DTV feature, the Knight Vision has good enough specs to run multiple

applications simultaneously. However, the phone may be past its prime as new models with better screens and higher processors are mushrooming within its price range. Today, I would expect a local midrange at this price to sport a Full HD screen with at least a 1.5GHz clock speed or sporting an octa-core processor. The frame also appears quite bulky at 8.5mm, especially when matched to its 5.5-inch screen.

The camera is a stunner, impressive both in good and low lighting conditions. The only setback is its slow focusing under low-light.

Battery power is also powerful. It survived several episodes of the *Attack on Titans* anime, equivalent to a feature-length film, on a single charge and still had enough power for surfing online. On standby, it lasts nearly a week without a need for recharge.



SPEED SAYS

The built-in Digital TV is perhaps the Starmobile Knight Vision's most enticing feature, although signal detection could get in the way at times. While it can deliver high performance for long durations, alongside having great-quality photos, several brands in its price range are catching up specs-wise.

GEEK METER



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PRODUCT TEST NO.
1703

Sexy beast

ASUS ROG G551JW

● Review by JOHN SOSMEÑA

THE NUMBERS

Display

15.6-inch Auto
HD LED-backlit
1920x1080

OS

Windows 8.1

CPU

Intel Core i7
4720HQ, NVIDIA
GeForce GTX960M
2GB/4GB DDR3,
Intel HD Graphics
4600 GPU

Memory

750GB/1TB
internal storage,
8/16GB RAM

Connectivity

Wi-Fi, Bluetooth
4.0, 3 x USB 3.0,
HDMI, mini
display port, mic,
headphone jack,
RJ45, 3-in-1
card reader

Price

P69,995

DIMENSIONS

383 x 255 x 28 ~
31.5mm, 2.7kg

Let's face it; the world of portable hardcore gaming has always required us to be strong enough to carry a 10-pound piece of equipment wherever we go.

With the G551 in tow, however, gaming on-the-go has never been sexier.



At just 2.7kg, the ROG G551JW is one of the lightest laptops out there. Weighing nothing more than a good day's worth of books for school, this 15-inch powerhouse fits just right in your backpack.

With the ROG G551, you won't have to worry about the exhaust getting extremely hot. Its cooling system works well enough to keep the air flow steady and lukewarm at most—not to mention quiet.

SPEED SAYS

Well-balanced, smooth to the touch, and powerful, the ASUS ROG G551 offers the perfect balance between comfort and gaming prowess, ensuring the best experience for both casual and hardcore portable gaming.

Of course, no game test is complete without the *Dark Souls: Prepare to Die*. I treaded the streets carefully and tried getting used to the feel of the keyboard, which didn't take more than five minutes. Smooth, responsive, and well-spaced, the ROG G551JW's keyboard makes playing games of this type an enjoyable experience.

The touchpad needs to be more responsive. The pointer speed needs a little boosting to get from one end of the screen to the other.

No slowdowns or screen tears took place even after hours of gaming. Aside from playing *Grand Theft Auto V* and *Assassin's Creed: Rogue*, I tried *The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim* on it, complete with the Super ENB graphics mod on Ultra settings. The laptop delivered near-perfect depth of field, glow, light, shading, refraction, and water quality at a stable 60fps.

GEEK METER



PRODUCT TEST NO.
1704

Fun to drive

2015 MAZDA6

● Review by KATRINA RIVIERE-DIGA

THE NUMBERS

Engine

2.5-liter in-line
4-cylinder DOHC

Transmission

6-speed
automatic
SKYACTIV DRIVE

Power

185hp @ 5,700rpm

Torque

250Nm @

3,250rpm

Suspension

MacPherson
struts front,
independent
multi-link rear

Tires

225/45 R19

Brakes

Ventilated discs
front, solid
discs rear

Safety

ABS with EBD,
DSC, airbags
(dual front,
side, curtain),
lane departure
warning

Price

P1,785,000



DIMENSIONS

4865 x 1840 x
1450mm, 1,444kg

In the two years since its last update, the gorgeous Mazda6 has grown smarter and even sexier.

It now looks more like its siblings with its redesigned grille and bumper, and now comes with ferocious-looking LED daytime running lights, a heads-up display, and handsome 19" aluminum wheels with a dark polished finish. Mazda is offering an all-new Sonic Silver paint job for the 2015 SKYACTIV model, but I'm partial to the sultry Soul Red unit that I tested.

The Mazda6 can ride rough patches well. Its NVH (noise, vibration, harshness) is impressive and something you'd expect from a European marque, not a Japan-made car.

It's hard to find a bad angle on this car. Up front, you get muscular-looking front fender lines, a more chiseled-looking signature wing that spans from headlamp to headlamp, and the aforementioned grille. Viewed from the side and rear, your eyes will naturally flow with the beautiful bodylines, arched roofline, and taut taillights.

The 2.5-liter SKYACTIV-G engine coupled with the 6-speed automatic gearbox is very responsive. Activate the Sport driving mode and you instantly feel the engine purr and rev.



A pleasant surprise is the car's superb fuel economy. A painfully slow 20kph drive along Commonwealth Avenue is made a wee bit more bearable because I still got between 10 and 12kpl. Going up and down Antipolo's winding roads, I got between 12 and 14kpl. Props goes to Mazda's i-stop idle-stop system and i-EL00P brake energy regeneration system. I find the i-stop activation/deactivation a bit jarring, but it's a quirk I'm willing to overlook.

I find driving at night a bit difficult because of my poor eyesight, so I use high beams quite liberally—which is why I love Mazda's adaptive LED headlamps. It selectively dims only the LED lights that could blind oncoming traffic.

SPEED SAYS

The 2015 Mazda6 is a terrific-looking car that's solidly built and fuel-efficient. It's so fun to drive that you'd love putting your foot to the floor every single time.

GEEK METER



1 The front seats, especially the driver's, provide pleasantly firm support and have lots of adjustment. The split rear seats are also comfortable. My test unit has white leather upholstery (an added premium), which are nice to look at but hard to maintain.

2 The Mazda6 is a long car, so it offers more legroom. However, ingress and egress can be a bit challenging especially at the back due to the car's rakish roofline.

3 Dual-zone automatic climate control means you can set different temperatures

for the driver and the passenger, which is useful if your passenger likes arctic weather.

4 Tech-savvy drivers would love the in-dash technology. Mazda's MZD Connect serves as your main communication point with the car. The system is very intuitive, the touchscreen is easy to use, and the rotary controller between the front seats is well thought of. Top-quality audio is taken care of by the 11-speaker BOSE surround sound system.

INTERIOR



Conquest of titans

XENOBLADE CHRONICLES 3D

● Review by ERIK PAOLO ESCUETA



Nintendo
3DS
REVIEWED

Originally released on the Nintendo Wii, *Xenoblade Chronicles 3D* makes an impressive showing on its new portable home in the new Nintendo 3DS with epic proportions and action-oriented, semi-automatic combat.

VITAL STATS

Platforms

New Nintendo 3DS (reviewed), Nintendo Wii

Developer

Monolith Soft

Publisher

Nintendo

No. of Players

1 Player Offline

Official Site

xenoblade-chronicles3d.nintendo.com

It does have some shortcomings and compromises that make it less appealing in practice than on paper, especially if you're brandishing the non-XL hardware. But these cons might not be as intolerable as they seem, more so if you're after a good role-playing game (RPG) on the go.

A BOY AND HIS MONADO

The story pulls no punches from the beginning, introducing you to *Xenoblade*'s world as built on the bodies of two warring titans, the Bionis and the Mechonis, respective homes of the Homs and Mechon races. The main story revolves around Shulk, a genius Hom youth researching the secrets of the Monado, which is a mysterious sword used to defeat the invading Mechon forces one year prior.

After tragedy hits his home of Colony 9 with a new Mechon invasion, it is up to Shulk and his friends to avenge their fallen and defeat the Mechon once and for all.

It is a nice fantasy setup, and the character development is ample with lots of banter for buildup. The pace is also spot-on as the mysteries surrounding Shulk and the Monado gradually unfold, giving meaningful incentive to see the story to its end.

On the flipside, it's a bit odd to see the well-developed character exchanges deliver some pretty shallow dialogue—how much you can tolerate the simplistic scriptwriting makes it a hit or miss. The same also applies to the British voice-overs, which are either convincing or contrived, depending on your taste, but for the most part, it gets the job done.

AUTOMATIC AUTONOMOUS ASSAULT

For the game's combat system, it is definitely not going to appeal universally to all role-playing gamers. It is technically of the real-time action variety, except your party members automatically attack, leaving you more in a directorial seat. In fact, the only manual inputs you get to do are issue specific party-based commands and move and execute special moves for your chosen, controllable party leader.

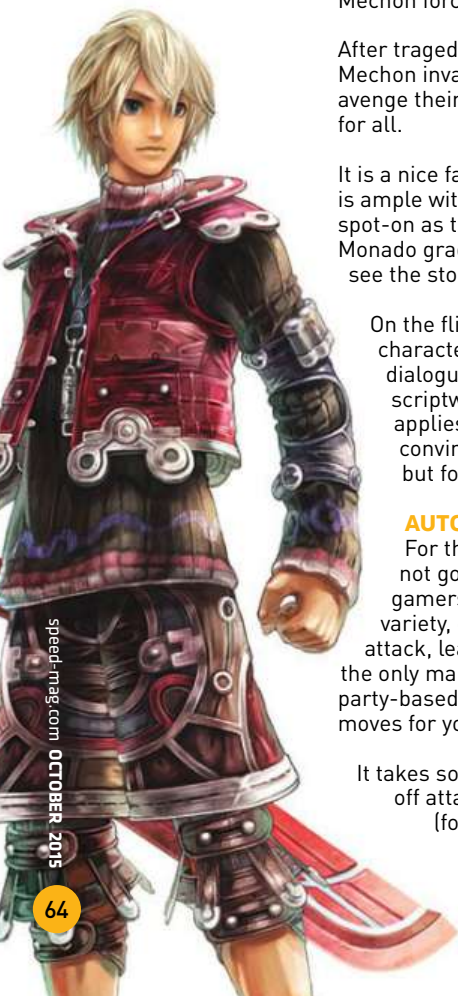
It takes some getting used to, but when you do pull off attacks and moves with successful strategy (for instance, some moves that render status



changes can be linked for added effects), the payoff just feels fantastic, particularly once you get to use the Monado blade itself and its evolving move list.

Once you start recruiting more party members, the skill diversity starts to become more apparent as the characters have unique playing styles.

Here's the catch, though: unless you have a favorite or a preference, main protagonist Shulk is always going to be the better option in actual play. The computer is much better at handling the other members' specialized roles. And once additional battle mechanics come into play like Chain Attacks and the Vision system (where Shulk can see into the future to prevent fatal attacks), you'll need all the breathing space you can get.





RESIZING RAMIFICATIONS

For party management, equipment options are plentiful, and it is a nice visual vanity to see your characters in different outfits (albeit somewhat templated) during normal play and in-game events.

There is also a gem crafting system, which, while potentially fun for a minigame, misses its mark quite doggedly with its confusing implementation and seemingly luck-based process, even with an adequate tutorial to get the best crafting results.

While on the subject, the user interface both in and out of combat is sometimes just not as responsive or effective as expected. During battle, oftentimes you'll have to keep hitting the confirm button just to register your selection, and the onscreen prompts often obscure the action, requiring nimble in-game camera management.

In the party menus, sorting and viewing additional information is just a horrendous affair with cumbersome cramped windows and large text that take up more space than needed.

By the way, these issues aren't as glaringly prominent on the New Nintendo 3DS XL thanks to the bigger screen real estate, but on the non-XL version, expect to get a tad frustrated. On that note, this

game is only supported on the New Nintendo 3DS; older models, sadly, are incompatible.

HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE BIONIS

When it comes to the in-game world, the dungeons are somewhat linear in nature, especially in the beginning. But once you start venturing outside Colony 9, the open-world areas of the Bionis have a grand scale to them, with relatively large maps containing lots of hidden areas and treasure strewn about.

The epic nature is also scaled up by the presence of high-level monsters way above your current levels (at least on first encounter) that tease some optional hunting opportunities. Given the monumental scale, the inclusion of anytime fast travel is definitely worth praising, greatly reducing backtracking and lessening the burden of exploring missed areas.

The game also offers a ton of sidequests, although mostly of the item-fetching and monster-hunting varieties. While they serve as a good source of in-game rewards, they aren't easy to track and monitor due to the minimal map markers (if any), requiring mostly guesswork and random exploration for their exact locations. It is okay if you're not pressed for time, but completists and treasure hunters will find it rather excruciatingly painful to deal with.

Later in the game, you'll also be able to rebuild one of the colonies destroyed by the Mechon. While it's purely optional, the rewards more than merit its viability like better shops and greater profit from ether deposits in the nearby mine.

A word of warning, though: given the lengthy list of things available to keep you preoccupied, this game does not sport an autosave feature, which feels severely unusual given that the game is on a portable console.

Yes, you can manually save anytime, and it's even fine there are no story checkpoints (you respawn at the last landmark discovered, which isn't too bad given the aforementioned fast travel), but unless you make it a conscious habit, you might find yourself losing a lot of progress by accident.

PROS

- great fantasy story filled with mystery and intrigue
- pseudo real-time combat offers satisfying payoffs from strategic options
- large open-world areas ripe for exploration with lots of hidden discoveries
- always-accessible fast-travel, a welcome and useful feature for backtracking
- lots of sidequests and looting/hunting opportunities add to game's lifespan

CONS

- hands-on action gamers won't find semi-automatic combat too appealing
- menus and interfaces are not as responsive or well-designed for portable screens
- lack of autosave feature could lead to lost progress if not managed properly
- little to no map markers make sidequests a bit difficult to track and manage
- not compatible with older 3DS hardware, can only be played on the new Nintendo 3DS

SPEED SAYS

Xenoblade Chronicles 3D is not perfect, not by a long shot. A lot of technical concerns and arbitrary issues provide liberal evidence of a haphazard port that might have been better on bigger screens rather than on a portable. But it's difficult to ignore all the cool stuff that the game brings to the table, including the intriguing and mystery-laden storyline, epic scale and scope of the in-game world, and satisfactory post-fight payoffs, which more than compensate for its slight shortcomings. *Xenoblade Chronicles 3D* is one of the better RPGs to come to the 3DS hardware, and a worthy pickup for the new Nintendo 3DS hardware line.

GEEK METER





how
to
get
away
with

Murder

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WITHIN 12 HOURS OF U.S.
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SIGNAL DIGITAL TV CH 60 | DESTINY CABLE CH 62



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Hotspot

FORM
FACTOR

NOKIA

MADE IN
FINLAND

Relive Nokia's golden days and
the amazing models that came out
of this product design genius

Words RON CRUZ



/SpeedMagazinePH



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NOKIA COMMUNICATOR 9000

1996

Nokia's Communicator series was a mobile phone line that catered mostly to businessmen. The very first iteration, the Nokia 9000 Communicator, was touted as the world's first smartphone as well.

It was a massive phone that opened up clamshell style to reveal a fully functional keyboard together with a long screen that could display maps, documents, and spreadsheets. It weighed a ton—but with all of those specs crammed into a phone introduced way back in 1996, it was nothing short of impressive.



NOKIA 5110

1998

The most popular cellphone model and most probably Generation Y's first cellphone was none other than the humble 5110. The phone had a simple and classic key layout, and was very hardy and almost indestructible. It came with a fixed antenna and a very powerful battery that held its charge for up to a week.

The phone's outer cover can be switched out with those of different colors to suit your mood. The customization aspect, coupled with the phone's longevity, singlehandedly created a whole new market.

It is crazy to think that the phrase "Made in Finland" was part of local vernacular just a few years ago, which is a big testament to the influence of then mobile giant Nokia. While their later attempts to remain relevant were forgettable, Nokia in its prime was the industry trailblazer, pushing design conventions and technological boundaries.

Their gorgeous phones were always the most coveted and always ahead of its time. There always had to be something new and better, as opposed to today's uninspired and dime a dozen designs. Let's all raise a glass to Nokia as we take a nostalgic look at some of their most iconic models.

NOKIA 7650

2002

Nokia's 7650 heralded the arrival of built-in cameras in mobiles. Before the 7650's introduction, one had to buy tiny attachable camera attachments.

This was the dawn of a new age. It was a medium-sized phone with a big color screen. You can navigate through the user-friendly menus using the joystick. But if you were going to send messages or make calls, you had to slide out the keyboard, which was hidden behind the phone. Its release was tied into a marketing campaign with the movie *Minority Report*, which further fueled the fervor for this model.



NOKIA 8110

1998

Known by most people as either the Matrix phone or the Banana phone, the Nokia 8110 captured the hearts of many and is widely considered as one of the most iconic phones ever made.

The handset had a sliding cover which hid the keypad while in your pocket. When fully retracted, the phone had a noticeable curvature which earned it its banana phone moniker. The slider was manually operated and not spring loaded. That is, unless you're Neo and had command over the machines.

NOKIA 3650

2002

Aside from being one of the first few Nokia units to come with an integrated camera, the 3650's claim to fame and what it is most fondly remembered for is its circular keypad.

Think of it as a throwback to the olden days of rotary phones. The round-shaped bottom helped give the Nokia 3650 a comfortable, snug fit in your palm. But its rotary styled keypad layout, which no one else employed, was an ergonomic nightmare for most.





NOKIA 6800 2003

One of Nokia's most unique offerings was the 6800. Born during the heyday of BlackBerry, the 6800 looked like just a regular phone but incorporated a hidden full QWERTY keyboard without compromising its compact size.

The swivel design was well thought out and sturdy. When you access the foldout keyboard, the phone's screen automatically rotates to accommodate eight lines of text while the backlight of the keys turns on, making sure you can write and send that important email ASAP.

NOKIA N-GAGE 2003

If you wanted your mobile gaming experience to be more than playing Snake, you had to get the Nokia N-Gage.

The N-Gage married a mobile phone and a handheld gaming device, allowing users to play popular games such as *Tomb Raider* and *Civilization*. The device was shaped like a taco, and had the joystick on the left side and the numeric keypad on the other. The area near the screen was painted to give it an industrial, metallic look. It was a nice idea but sadly, poorly executed.



NOKIA 7600 2003

Nokia's 7600 is one of the most innovative and daring designs to ever come to fruition. The phone resembled something like a futuristic teardrop that's square in size. It had roughly the same dimensions as a pack of cigarettes and weighed just a little more.

The keypad was divided into two sections and placed on opposite sides of the phone with the screen smack dab in the middle, making the use of both hands a necessity and one-handed operation an almost impossible task.





NOKIA 7280

2004

Designed with fashion and minimalism in mind, Nokia's 7280 is a gorgeous, eye-catching beauty that didn't live a longer life than it deserved. The 7280 stood out from every mobile phone out in the market during its time—and could do so maybe even today. It has been affectionately called the lipstick phone by some, candy bar phone by others.

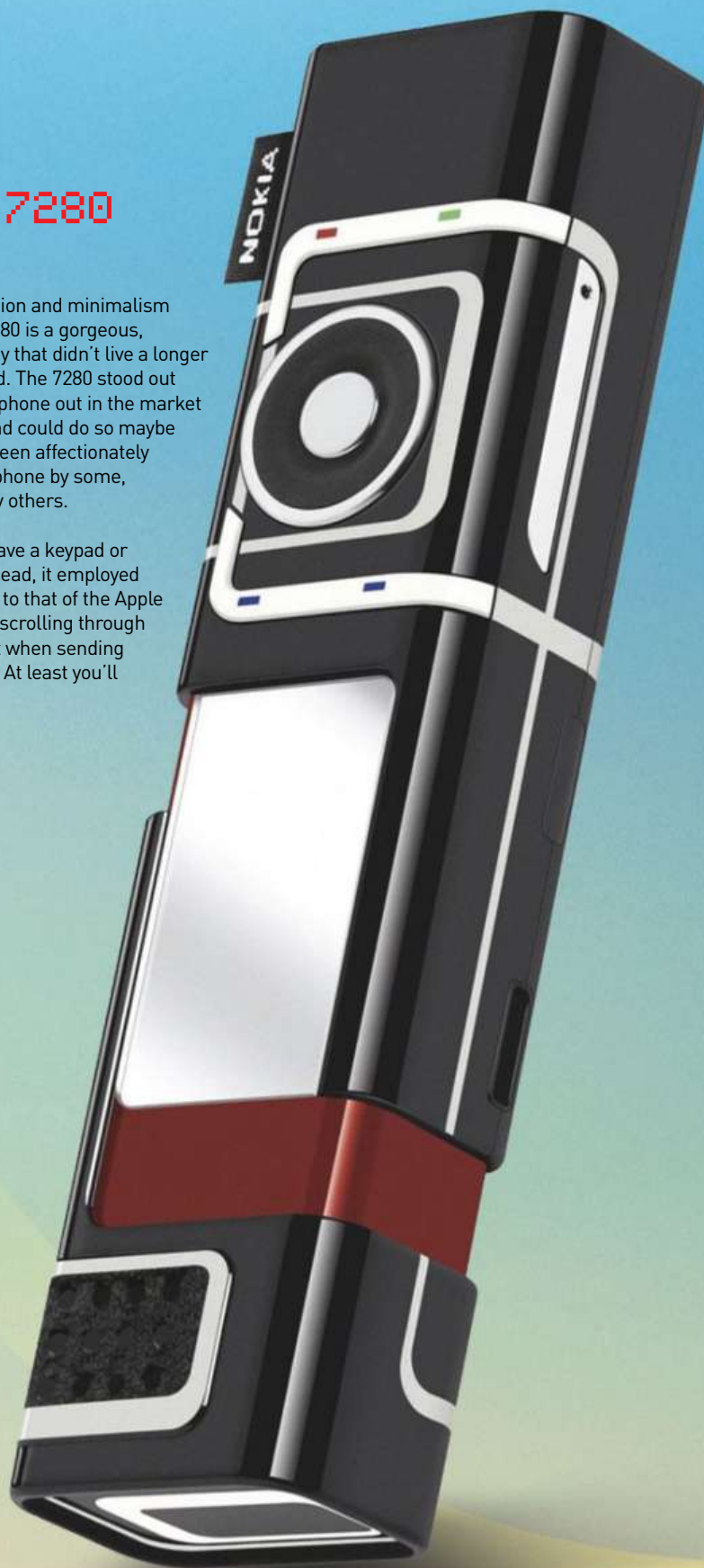
The phone didn't have a keypad or a touchscreen. Instead, it employed a scroll wheel akin to that of the Apple iPod's. This meant scrolling through the whole alphabet when sending out text messages. At least you'll look cool, though.

NOKIA 7610

2004 MID

One of the phone models falling under Nokia's "fashion" line, the 7610 was a beautiful-looking mobile phone that scored purely on aesthetics alone. The handset screamed of elegance, with its shiny black body accented with red and silver touches. To spice things up further, a small part of the back was adorned with decals.

As has become the norm, Nokia fiddled with ergonomics and created a new curvy keypad layout. While it looked good, it can take quite a while to get used to.



NOKIA 7710

2004

The 7710 was the tablet before there were even tablets in the market. One of the most interesting things about the Nokia 7710 was it being designed to be used exclusively in landscape mode (except to take in calls).

It was also the first Nokia device to have a touchscreen and as such, did away with the keypad. The phone looked sleek and elegant with no buttons out of place. It was curved ever so slightly as to help with ergonomics, both when in landscape and portrait modes.



NOKIA N93

2006

The Nokia N93 was probably the Finnish company's most flexible phone as it literally contorted into almost any shape imaginable.

Building up from the success of its predecessor the N90, the N93 looked and felt like a mini camcorder instead of a phone. Located above the handset was the swivel mechanism and the camera's pride and joy, which was the Carl Zeiss lens. You can use it like a regular clamshell phone or contort it a bit for video recording and playback.



NOKIA N95

2007

Nokia's version of dropping the mic back in 2005 was with the revolutionary release of the N95. The Nokia N95 was the first phone ever to offer a cutting-edge 5-megapixel Carl Zeiss camera, which was unheard of during its time. Aside from its camera, the N95's defining design feature was its two-way sliding configuration. You can slide the screen up to reveal the textured keypad underneath, or slide the screen down to access the media-player controls.

NOKIA N97

2009

One of Nokia's more memorable forays into the high-end smartphone arena was the N97. A quick first glance would give you a smooth and elegant looking phone; its frame was lined with chrome while the middle part had the responsive 3.5-inch touchscreen.

Sliding it up would yield a full QWERTY keyboard with the screen still angled for ease of use. It was solidly built, giving you the assurance that daily use of the slider won't fail you in the phone's lifetime.



NOKIA X7

2011

One of the greatest things about Nokia was even when they were in their last leg, they still strove to create new and interesting designs, one of which was the X7.

The Nokia X7 had a 4-inch touchscreen with a gunmetal finish at the back that added a nice feel to the unit. The phone's chassis featured angled corners, two of which housed the speakers. These angles gave the phone a nice contour and a stunning silhouette—something that's sorely lacking from today's phones.

ROB LOWE

FRED SAVAGE

You don't need a good lawyer. Just a good actor.



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*Available in CBS/ISS variant only



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MOBILITECH

MOBILE TECHNOLOGY AT ITS FINEST

Mobilitech, technology that moves us and moves with us, has never been this powerful and prolific.

After the Nokia 5110 was launched in 1998, it quickly rose to superstardom, becoming an unprecedented global telecommunication phenomenon. But the cellular phone has evolved into a new beast altogether. Assuming a computing role in the age of the internet was all the mobile phone needed to take over the world—your world. Now, you pick up a smartphone instead of a newspaper, you tap on a screen instead of opening a window, you download apps instead of doing chores, and you scroll up and down instead of saying hello. Device-dependence and app-dependence have become real things, and what the boob tube did from your living room, the smartphone is doing everywhere you go.

Here we put together a series of articles exploring the different ways the smartphone is embedding itself into everyone's lives, from giving the television a new lease on life, to taking part in the democratization of the internet and becoming the one tool that powers your day.





COVER STORY

BOOB TUBE ON THE MOVE

TELEVISION MOVES OUT OF LIVING ROOM SETS AND INTO SMARTPHONES

Words **CARMELA MARAAN FERNANDO**

Just a little over a decade ago (which also happens to be last century), being a couch potato meant actually vegging out on your couch in front of the TV at home. Now, you can be a couch potato—anywhere—thanks to mobile TV.



Linear TV formats are a thing of the past, now that digital on-demand media is widely available on mobile devices. But what does this mean for consumers?



Maybe you are the type who enjoys indulging in streaming programs on a smartphone wherever you go, or maybe you get completely annoyed at the tinny noise you hear when someone else watches noontime shows on full blast on their mobile device. Either way, there's no denying that mobile television is now becoming a fixture in consumers' daily viewing routine.

TV-LUTION

When it comes to cultural media, no other modern invention has exceeded the television in terms of impact. The concept of gazing into a box for entertainment, education, and information has embedded itself so firmly into collective practices all over the world that it has become one of the universal symbols for communication.

When we process information broadcast to us through sound and images on TV, it becomes an analytical and sensory indirect experience for us that lodges itself in our subconscious. The intellectual and emotional transformative power of TV is so strong that many of us can clearly recall events that we have watched on it in early childhood; and those programs that we can't remember, we internalize.

For instance, those of us who have grown up watching kiddie educational shows in lieu of our parents' or caregivers' company still remember snippets of these programs fondly all the way into adulthood. If we happened to watch a deeply frightening scene on TV, it makes its way into our personal plethora of secret fears. Or, we tend to recall certain advertisements and promotional programs, even if they annoy us by interrupting our regular viewing schedule.

Combine this informational reach with 24/7 access inside the home, and you've got an incredibly powerful tool for shaping a society's ethos. Because of this, TV could singularly be considered as the most revolutionary cultural invention of the 20th century.

But with the advent of the home computer and the internet, this ubiquitous black box took an unexpected downturn in popularity.

THE DEATH OF HOME TV

The emergence of commercially available internet access in the mid-1990s gave rise to technological developments in personal computers and mobile phones. With more information readily available in real time, this eventually challenged the predominance of TV as a source of entertainment, news, and general knowledge.

In the first years of the 21st century, it was predicted that the rise of Web 2.0 would be the death of television. As viewers were more exposed to several media at their own convenience, they became less tolerant of waiting around for scheduled programs, bringing about a significant change in traditional TV viewing activity.

Presented with a smorgasbord of media channels, platforms, and selections, consumers gravitated toward niche content through cable, multichannel, and on-demand broadcasting services such as TiVo. Entertainment became more individualized as opposed to the communal viewing activity from the previous century.

Naturally, this paradigm shift presented numerous challenges to the television industry. With the rapidly increasing competition from the internet and telecommunications fields, television broadcasters had to keep up with their declining audience's preferences by offering specialized services like satellite and cable subscription packages that allow users to select and view their desired programs at specific times.





LONG LIVE MOBILE TV

It took a while for audiences to come down from the high provided by the wave of digital data in the Web 2.0 era. But contrary to the initial hysteria about the demise of television, it heralded a massive transformation in the TV industry instead.

With the rise of social media, cable subscriptions have decelerated in favor of subscriptions to digital streaming media platforms like YouTube, Twitch, Hulu, Vevo, Netflix, and more. To keep up with this, TV broadcasting companies have made their programs accessible online, or have released special online TV shows and series to complement their shows that are aired on "traditional" TV. Also, their social media marketing and feedback campaigns are more aggressive and niche-conscious.

Unlike the more passive TV-to-audience dynamic of yore, user engagement is now at the forefront, so audiences have an active say in what they want to see in upcoming shows as evidenced in reality TV, social media feedback channels, TV review sites, mobile apps, and programs featuring real-time mobile audience feedback. They can also share, view, and review programs on social networks, which in turn increases the network's captive audience organically.

Since mobile technology has gained a solid foothold in the market, it was only a matter of time before broadcast networks would air their programs on mobile devices via online streaming subscription services. This way, the viewer is granted 100 percent share-of-voice, a personalized viewing experience, guaranteed viewing (no more waiting for schedules or dealing with delays and cancelations), and optimal chances of engagement.

A bonus perk to mobile viewing is the audience's involvement in creating their own streaming video shows. Using their mobile device, they can shoot and upload their own videos, create their own program series, and ultimately have their own audiences through video sharing platforms such as YouTube, Vimeo, and LiveLeak. This somewhat levels the playing field between the viewers and broadcasting networks because it allows the viewers to become program producers.

Table 1.0 Comparison of internet TV services in the Philippines

Country	Blink Philippines	HOOQ Philippines	iflix Philippines, Malaysia
Content	2,000 hours; Hollywood; TV shows and movies	30,000 hours; Hollywood, regional, local; TV shows and movies	11,000 hours; Hollywood, regional, local; TV shows and movies
Live TV	Yes	None	None
Mobile App	Android 4.0 and above; iOS 6 and above	Android 4.0 and above; iOS 7 and above	Android 4.3 and above; iOS 7 and above
Web playback	Yes (requires Microsoft Silverlight)	Yes (requires Microsoft Silverlight)	Yes
Connected devices	Up to 3	Up to 5	Up to 5
Download feature	None	Yes (5 videos across devices)	None
Pricing	P250/month	P149/month	P129/month
Free Trial	None	30 days	30 days
Payment methods	PayPal, MasterCard, VISA, debit card, Smart/Sun Prepaid and Postpaid, GCash, Blink prepaid credits	VISA, MasterCard, Globe Plan	MasterCard, VISA



The key here is control. Back then, the audience was practically a slave to their TV sets, their schedules revolving around their favorite shows. Now with mobile TV, they have full command of what, when, where, and how often they want to watch.

No one has to miss out on shows and videos, and everyone can be treated to exclusive viewing perks from their chosen networks and streaming services.

So, where do we, the audience, go from here?

It's still undecided, but what's highly likely is a continued expansion in mobile usage. Avid viewers would be springing for the best mobile devices that are best optimized for video streaming, as well as shooting and uploading high-quality videos. It's also safe to expect a greater influx of creative marketing and advertising campaigns specifically geared toward existing and potential mobile markets.

Future markets could also anticipate that TV networks, advertisers, and mobile brands will tie up to produce specific programs, series, and media campaigns tailored for users of particular mobile brands. This will create an even more individualized viewing experience for loyal consumers.

For the meantime though, we've already got a plethora of shareable and reviewable TV programs waiting for us right in our pockets. So, better stay tuned.

THE INTERNET IS YOURS

HOW INTERNET AS A PUBLIC UTILITY
CREATES EQUALITY

Words **CARMELA MARAAN FERNANDO**

In February 2015, the U.S. FCC (Federal Communications Commission) voted to regulate broadband internet as a public utility. This means that the internet is to be maintained as a venue for free expression and democracy, and that everyone is granted the equal and free access to any website that hosts legal content, which includes photos, videos, music, email, social networks, and maps.

What does this mean for us?

According to the policy, which is founded on the principle of net neutrality, no content is blocked, and that there will be no pay-to-play fast lanes for internet services: large-paying corporations and the media get the same access as everyone else.

The reason for the policy's approval is that internet access is "too important to let broadband providers be the ones making the rules," U.S. FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler said.



FREE AND OPEN

By default, the internet should be a free and open place for self-expression with equal accessibility for all. But this is a concept that's often taken for granted by many users. When Internet Service Providers (ISPs) start restricting access according to who pays more for better accessibility, that's when net neutrality needs to be firmly enforced.

Have you ever felt frustrated at having limited ISP options, wherein subscribing to one company makes you wonder if you're missing out on better service from another? Or having to struggle with a DSL plan that's continuously faulty and doesn't deliver on service, but since there aren't other ISPs in your area, you don't have much choice but to put up with that company?

Or how about having to shell out for a prepaid mobile data plan with a certain data limit, but while you're paying a consistent amount of cash for every purchase, you still don't enjoy equally consistent service and performance? And the fact that you can only get Wi-Fi services at selected establishments, where incidentally, you have to purchase items to avail of?

There's also the supposedly 'free Wi-Fi' service you get at certain shops and spots, but it's no better than the slow speed you get from inexpensive prepaid data plans.

Then there's the oft-used marketing spiel, "If you pay so-and-so every month, you'll enjoy faster internet speed at up to 10Mbps." The catch here is in the key words 'up to.' The amount of money you pay every month stays the same, but it doesn't guarantee you'll always get the same speed you're paying for, just a promise that you'll get **up to** a certain speed.

Additionally, availing higher internet speeds requires you to sign up for a lock-in period, binding you to pay for the service for a minimum number of months.

And if you're running a personal website in the hopes of gaining more traffic, have you noticed that popular and big-name websites in the same niche as yours seem to get much more traffic despite all the work and effort you put into your own site? Even if you don't run your own website, you may notice that sites owned by popular brands or users are much easier to access than similar sites run by people still trying to make a name for themselves.

These are but a few of the critical issues that the internet-as-a-public-utility aims to address. Right now, we're at the mercy of warring ISP corporations, in that many of us users only enjoy certain service perks that are directly proportionate to the amount of money paid to these companies.

FAST LANE FOR ALL

If the internet is implemented as a public utility here, it will enforce the principle of freedom for all, not profit for a few.

There is the issue of paid prioritization of fast and slow lanes, as previously mentioned. Corporation-owned websites or sponsored websites can afford to pay providers to allow greater and faster access to their content, which is known as the fast lane.

Meanwhile, the slow lane covers owners of small business sites or free websites such as blogs built on free platforms, those who cannot pay for better exposure. How can they stand a chance against

bigger online names if the ISPs cut their accessibility at the root?

Aside from this, net neutrality specifically targets the following:

- **Throttling.** This is when ISPs deliberately speed up or slow down certain websites, depending on the ISP's preferences.
- **Blocking.** This is when the ISP blocks content from a consumer that requests access to it, depending on whom the ISP is commercially affiliated with. But everyone should be able to access content and services that they request from the ISP.
- **Transparency.** This is when ISPs reserve VIP treatment for certain consumers regarding their company policies, and manipulate the information they release to the public, as well as their internet connections.

This doesn't only apply to users that avail of broadband services. Since more and more consumers are turning to mobile carriers, the policy will also include provisions for mobile data service for wired lines, smartphones, and tablets, aiming to protect consumer privacy and grant internet access to people with disabilities and communities in remote areas.

What this means for us users is that we will be the owners of the utility, that we can avail of government-sanctioned broadband services—DSL, wireless, and fiber—without interference from private providers in competition with each other. Better yet, we would enjoy paid monthly access to the internet at competitive download speeds **without** contracts or data caps.



EQUAL ACCESS, EQUAL SERVICE

There will be no special treatment for high-paying users. The internet must not be a place where the rich get richer while the poor stay poor.

This internet-as-a-public-utility policy means a newborn company will have the same chances of succeeding online as an established corporation, or a student's amateur blog will enjoy the same speed and accessibility as professional blogs sponsored by advertisers.

Because of this, more internet users would be encouraged to work, enriching more of their investors and increasing the chances of wide-spread profit.

In a nutshell, net neutrality supports user equality. If the internet belongs to the public, it must allow the public to own its right to be heard by the rest of the world.



APP-DRIVEN LIFE

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE MOBILE JUAN

Words **RON CRUZ**

For better or worse, technology has become an integral part of our everyday lives. Even without consciously doing so, we've seamlessly assimilated the use of apps and tech in even the most mundane of tasks.

As the late Steve Jobs would say, "There's an app for that." But what exactly does a day in the life of an app-driven Pinoy look like? Let's take a gander on how it all plays out!

- 5:15 a.m.** – Wake up to **Alarmy**, which has the honor of being dubbed world's most annoying alarm clock. It will literally get your lazy butt off the bed as you need to take a picture of something out of reach, like the bathroom sink or your pet cactus before you can turn it off.
- 5:20 a.m.** – After you get your wits about you, consult your **Sleep as Android** app to review your sleep cycle. The app factors in sound during the wee hours, so it catches and reports if you've been snoring, talking in your sleep, or doing anything else out of the ordinary.
- 5:30 a.m.** – To get the juices flowing and to fuel your competitive spirit, hop on your bike and fire up **Strava**, which, aside from tracking speed and distance, has the option to e-mail your friends that you just beat their personal best.



- 12:25 p.m.** – While finishing up lunch, you can log on to your **BPI Mobile** app to review your monthly statement, and pay your phone, electric, and other utility bills for the month.
- 9 – 10** Since all the bills have been paid already, might as well check out good deals on **Zalora**, **Lazada**, **OLX**, and **AyosDitoPH**. Once you're done putting all those goodies in your online cart, log on to your **GCash** or **Smart Money** app to complete the transaction. Waiting for the products to be delivered at home is the hardest part!
- 5:30 p.m.** – If it has been raining the whole afternoon, chances are some roads are flooded. Make sure to look at your **MMDA** app to see which roads are passable and which ones have gone the way of Atlantis.

4

6:30 a.m. – Look for a new breakfast recipe to try out on **YouTube**.

We recommend looking for Gordon Ramsay's scrambled eggs, as they are simply divine and more importantly, realistically easy to cook.

6:50 a.m.

– Shower. You stink already.

5

7:00 a.m. – Navigating the busy streets of Manila blindly is a fate worse than death. Make sure **Waze** is turned on to know what routes to take and avoid. Since the morning radio DJs are insufferable, queue up a **Spotify** playlist ahead of time so that your ride to work is fairly enjoyable.

6

8:30 a.m. – Confer with your colleagues and share your data in **Evernote** before the big meeting. After all their inputs have been added, lay them out and proudly show off your ideas in Presentation mode. For getting work done, **OfficeSuite** is the most flexible app in giving you the freedom to create and edit Office documents while mobile.

7

11:30 a.m. – Dazzle that coworker you've been eyeing with your gustatory knowhow of the best restaurants in town with the **Zomato** app. Impress her more with other tidbits about the establishment you've found. Spouting the reviews word for word is not recommended.



12

7:30 p.m. – After a grueling day's work, it's time to reward yourself with good food. **Booky** lets you search over 13,000 restaurants in Manila. If you're feeling indecisive, you can always use the **McDo** app for your guilty pleasures to be delivered straight to your doorstep.

13

9:00 p.m. – Relax and catch up on the adventures of your favorite superheroes with the **Comic Zeal** app. Its digital library automatically organizes all of your comics and tracks which ones you haven't read, so you can always pick up where you left off.

14

10:00 p.m. – Before going to sleep, open your **Runtastic Pedometer** app to see how many steps you were able to take throughout the day. The app translates all this data to show you the exact distance you're able to cover as well as total calories you've burned.

15

10:20 p.m. – Since you know you'll never sleep and fall into the internet blackhole if you keep staring at a bright screen, **Lux** changes the hue of the screen itself, giving your eyes a break and putting less strain on them. Before you know it, you're off to La La land!

MOVIE MAKING MAGIC—ON MOBILE

Film shot on iPhone a hit at Sundance Film Festival

Words **CARMELA MARAAN FERNANDO**

Aspiring

filmmakers, take heart: Sean Baker's *Tangerine* drew rave reviews at the Sundance Film Festival, but not for obvious reasons.

To begin with, *Tangerine* made an impact with its plot, revolving around the funny and heartwarming misadventures of a pair of transgender sex workers in the seedy sections of Hollywood. Starring Kitana Kiki Rodriguez (Sin-Dee) and Mya Taylor (Alexandra), the movie narrates a glimpse into their world where they start off as rivals at work and end up forging an intimate and charming friendship.

NEXT-LEVEL IPHONE FILMMAKING

What steals the spotlight isn't the story but the fact that the breakout film wasn't shot with

Film director
Sean Baker



your standard movie cameras and paraphernalia.

Although plenty of indie movies have been filmed on an iPhone, *Tangerine* is the first movie at the Sundance Film Festival to be shot almost entirely using an Apple mobile. What's surprising is that the movie is captured in a widescreen 2:35:1 aspect ratio, and moves with a steadiness that rivals other films shot with conventional gear.

By using an iPhone 5s and a 1.33x Anamorphic Adapter for iPhone 5s from Moondog Labs, director Sean Baker and cinematographer Radium Cheung were able to capture a unique vibrant, cinematic effect that wouldn't be achieved with regular mobile video.

With the FiLMiC Pro app, Baker and Cheung were able to control the focus, aperture, compression, and color temperature, avoiding the constantly shifting exposure that often occurs when shooting videos on mobile. They also used a Steadicam Smoothee for iPhone 5/5s to avoid the dreaded shake.

"These phones, because they're so light, and they're so small, [when controlled by] a human hand—no matter how stable you are—it will shake. And it won't look good. So you needed the Steadicam rig to stabilize it," explained Baker.

FRESH PERSPECTIVE

More noticeably, the duo was able to lend new and more dynamic camera movements that were enabled by the device's size and weight, which would have otherwise

been hard to do using larger and clunkier cameras. One example of this was Baker shooting scenes while riding around on his 10-speed bicycle. Unlike your typical desaturated social commentary films, *Tangerine* had its color saturation kicked up to high levels in post-production, with digital grain added for better film quality.

"With a lot of these social realist films, the first thing you do is drain the color," said Baker. "We went the other way. We pumped the colors and put the saturation through the roof. Just because the world there is so colorful, and the women are so colorful. We wanted it to match them."

This resulted in orange being the dominant color all throughout the film, inspiring its title.

In addition, Cheung used only three battery-operated Rosco LitePads—1'x1', 6"x12", and 3"x12"—plus bounce material bought at a 99-Cents Only store to achieve lighting effects. This, matched with Baker's vision, produced a wildly colorful depiction that does justice to the equally colorful characters.

"One movie critic called it '*pop vérité*,' and that was exactly the combination I was looking for," Baker said of the overall look.

BUZZ FEED

Several other feature-length films claim being the first to be shot on an iPhone. Check out also *Uneasy Lies the Mind* and the horror film *Hooked Up*.

Tangerine's success now spells a major breakthrough for budding filmmakers with limited resources, proving that tools don't strictly make the artist; rather, it is the artist that makes magic with the simplest of tools.



Goosebumps

OPENS October 21

If you got a picture deal to all of R.L. Stine's 62 *Goosebumps* novels, which do you film first? All of them, apparently—in one fell swoop.

Sony's *Goosebumps* adaptation sees Jack Black play the fictional version of author R.L. Stine, who possesses a burgeoning library of books, each of which has a supernatural beast locked inside. When new neighbor Zach (Dylan Minnette) accidentally lets them loose, they rush to stop the monsters from terrorizing the town.

Odeya Rush, Amy Ryan, Ken Marino, Ryan Lee, Jillian Bell, and Kumail Nanjiani complete the cast. Just cross your fingers that your favorite monster makes a cameo in this *Goosebumps* movie. And remember: whatever you do, don't scream.



Crimson Peak

OPENS October 14

Critically acclaimed

director Guillermo del Toro is back with yet another provocative adult fairy tale with *Crimson Peak*.

This haunting gothic horror film tells the story of aspiring author Edith

Cushing (Mia Wasikowska), who falls in love and marries the mysterious Sir Thomas Sharpe (Tom Hiddleston). Sir Thomas sweeps her away to their home—a crumbling

mansion that houses dark secrets and ghostly, mysterious entities the family is trying to hide.

Also starring Charlie Hunnam (*Pacific Rim*) and Jessica Chastain (*Interstellar*), *Crimson Peak* promises a tainted dark tale of love, incest, secrets, and horror.



PAN

OPENS October 8

Pan is a live-action feature from director Joe Wright (*Atonement*, *Pride and Prejudice*) that presents an entirely original saga of the beginnings of our beloved characters of J.M. Barrie.

Peter (Levi Miller) is a mischievous 12-year-old boy who lives in a bleak London orphanage during WWII. Then one incredible night, Peter is spirited away to a world of pirates, warriors, and fairies called Neverland. There he finds adventures, fights life-or-death battles, and ultimately discovers his destiny—to become the hero who will be forever known as Peter Pan.

Apart from newcomer Miller, you'll also see Hugh Jackman as Blackbeard, Rooney Mara as Tiger Lily, and Garret Hedlund as the young James Hook.



T

ROBERT ZEMECKIS
WALKS US THROUGH

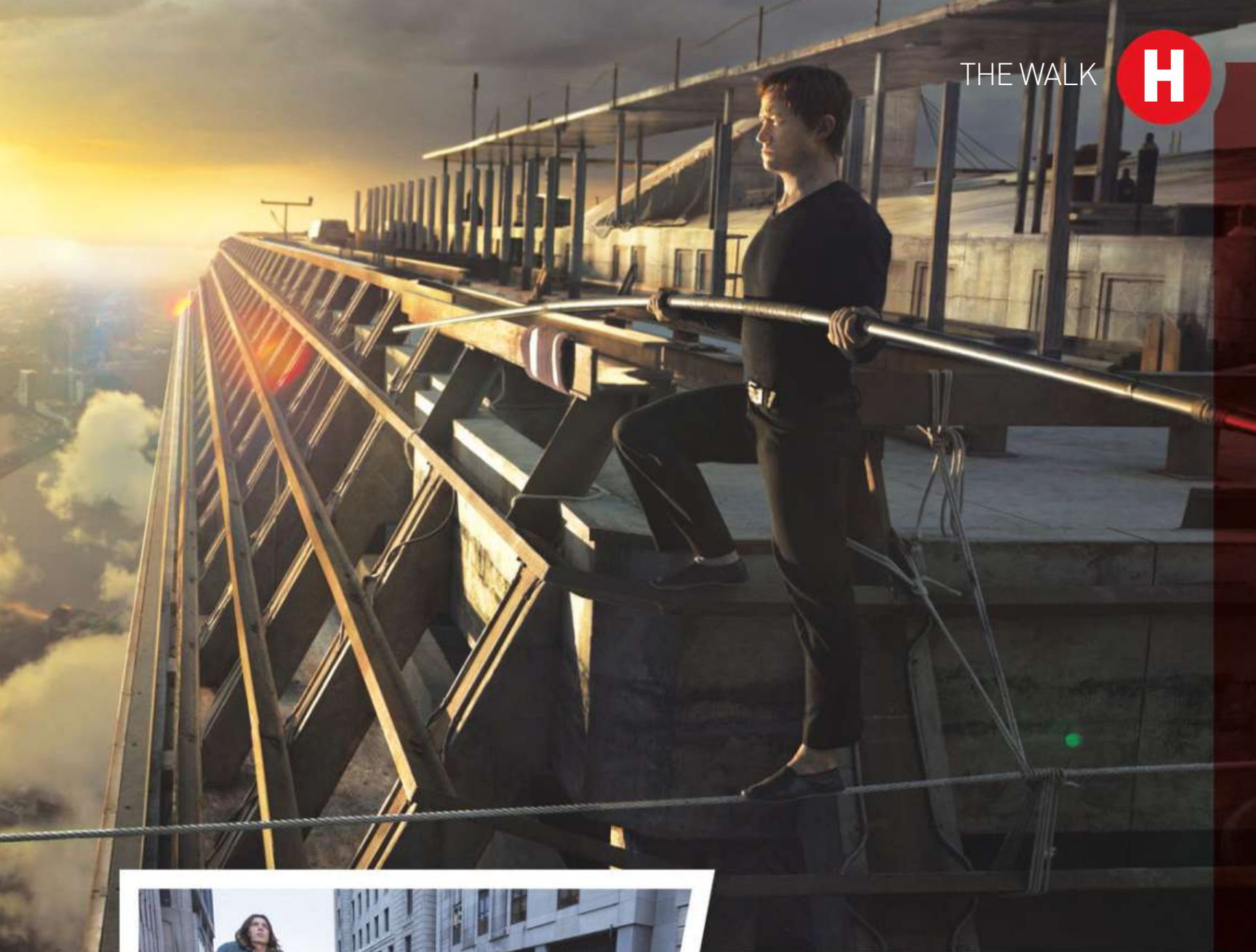
The Walk

Interview by **STEVEN GOLDMAN**
Special thanks to Columbia Pictures

Twelve men have walked on the moon. But only one was ever able to walk between the Twin Towers of New York's World Trade Center. His name is Philippe Petit, a French aerialist who crossed a high wire between the Towers on the morning of August 7, 1974.

Now, some 40 years later, we'll get the chance to join him. Audiences will experience what it might have been like to walk among the clouds themselves when Robert Zemeckis' new 3D movie, *The Walk*—starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ben Kingsley, and Charlotte Le Bon—opens this October.

A master at using new technology in the service of story and character, Zemeckis first captured the international spotlight in 1985 with *Back to the Future*. His films include *Romancing the Stone*, *Forrest Gump*, *Cast Away*, *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, *Contact*, *A Christmas Carol*, and most recently, the critically acclaimed *Flight*, starring Denzel Washington. Zemeckis met with the international press on the set of *The Walk* in Montreal as the film entered its final days of production.



It took several years to get *The Walk* into production. Why did it take so long? Would you have been able to get the film made without the success of *Gravity*, a movie which similarly employed state-of-the-art technology at the service of dramatic storytelling?

Good question. Maybe, not... Certainly one of the big struggles I had getting this film made was that it's very difficult to make any film [today] that's not derivative. Anything that tries to be unique and original is the hardest type of film to make. And then to say it's about a wire-walker and I want to make it in 3D—that's almost an impossible feat. But to answer your question, yes, I think when audiences embrace something—like they did with *Gravity*, which they embraced for its unique story and use of 3D—it made it a little easier to think that they might like something that has spectacle along with emotion, like this.

What was at the core of the story that spoke to you?

What speaks to me is the idea of this artist who will risk everything to create his art. That I completely relate to. That I completely understand, that thing that happens when you just must do this at all costs. You have to achieve this thing... What I [also] love about it is that it's just a magnificent fable. It's just got all the great things that you love in telling stories. Like *Casey at the Bat* (Ernest Thayer's iconic-American baseball poem) or *Robin Hood* or any of those great stories, it's this sort of magnificent fable. And it resonates very powerfully now because the Towers don't exist anymore. It can never happen again. So it's really only a fable now.

You're known for pushing the technology envelope with your films. With this one it looks like you're doing it once again.

I've always believed that one of the things we go to the movies to see is [spectacle]. I've said this many times, but one of my favorite quotes from any filmmaker is Francois Truffaut's when he said, "A really great movie is the perfect blend of truth and spectacle." And that's what I think we go to the movies for. We go to see a story that is rooted in human truth and the human journey. But we also go to see spectacle. That's what movies do better than any other art form. Sometimes that spectacle is a close-up. You know, it's not always a visual effect. So it's not just big stuff. Sometimes it's the power of a performance. That's spectacle too.

Nevertheless, there's a lot of big stuff in this film.

Yeah, there's a lot of big stuff in this film (*laughs*)... That's one of the reasons to make it—to be able to do something that's unique...

That would be recreating Petit's walk itself?

It's a magnificent challenge that I had to sink my teeth into. It is this magnificent moment at the end of the film which is the culmination of this man's dream. When you see the choreography of what he did on the wire, it's an adventure in itself because he was on the wire in real life for 45 minutes. The reason, if you've read his book or if you've heard him speak... What happened was the police showed up on both towers. So there was nothing for him left to do but perform. There was no way to arrest him. There was no way to stop him. He was [in the middle] and if he went to either side, it would have been over. And so he had to choose what he was going to do. That's a drama in itself.

The other thing that I love about what I'm doing, and this can only be done in the cinema, and it can only be done, spectacularly, in the 3D cinema is... Well, one of the things that I thought was so unique about doing a movie about something as simple as a wire walker was the following... If you've ever seen a wire-walking act, there's only one perspective. It's you looking up, right? But how magnificent to put the audience on the wire! No one has ever seen a performance on the wire *looking down*. Now, if you've got a fear of heights, you're not going to be comfortable watching a lot of this movie (*laughs*)... But that was another thing that I loved about it.

“

BUT HOW MAGNIFICENT TO PUT THE AUDIENCE ON THE WIRE! NO ONE HAS EVER SEEN A PERFORMANCE ON THE WIRE LOOKING DOWN.

”



You've done performance capture movies before. Why did you want to return to live action? What special satisfaction do you get from that?

Listen, I never left live action. It's been written that I've said [that], but I never did. It's just been those kinds of stories that have been the things that I gravitated to and wanted to make... You know, there were a couple in a row that I thought would be good and I love the idea of performance capture. Performance capture is here to stay. And it's going to be an art form itself.

Why do filmmakers and audiences alike look back so fondly at films from the '80s like *Back to the Future*?

Back in the '80s when you could make a movie like *Back to the Future*, the world was a different place in terms of the movie industry. You could get a movie made that was very wacky. You could do something outside the box. You could try things. You could do things. The sad thing about what's happened in the industry now is that there's no room for films like *Back to the Future*... The films that are trying to do things and that are trying to think outside the box and be more unique, they very seldom have the support of a huge distribution system behind them. They're made. But most people don't get to see them.

What's been the biggest challenge with this film?

Listen, here's my feeling. I feel that reward is directly proportional to risk. This is a risky venture, because it's a story that is... On paper, there's no simple description of the movie that you can hang your advertising hat on. It's not based on a comic book or a presold title. It's unique. That's risky. Whenever you do anything that's original and unique, then it's risky.

It sounds like you have a lot in common with Philippe Petit.

Yes, we're also flying without a net! That's how we're like Philippe. There's no net.

Do you ever feel like you're on a high-wire, like him?

All the time (*laughs*)... I think anytime a filmmaker makes a movie, he's walking on a wire.

Petit's walk took years of planning before it was executed. Do you have a similar passion project which has taken years to bring to fruition?

This one. This took six seven years to get made. I've been working very, very diligently to get this one off the ground and get it made.

Why so long?

I guess nowadays it isn't [long]. I've gotten used to that. Back in the day, it wouldn't have taken this long. But it ties in to what I said earlier. It's just because it's too much of a [risk]... I'm grateful it's finally getting made. But it was a long struggle.

We discussed the spectacle of what you're filming. But it also sounds like a caper film as well—how Petit and his crew managed to pull off this stunt. Is that how you approached it?

It's a caper film, but nobody is trying to steal anything or destroy anything. They're not trying to blow up the world or rob anyone's jewels. Philippe's walk has been described as the artistic crime of the century. That's kind of what it is. So it does have all the elements of a caper [film], but no one is a victim. It's a caper of love. And the movie is a love letter to the Twin Towers. They're very much present in the film as characters. So it's also a celebration. In the tragic history of those buildings, this is one glorious and human moment that happened. And I think that's something that's important to remember.

The Walk stars Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ben Kingsley, and Charlotte Le Bon.





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REMASTER of PUPPETS

Better versions of good records

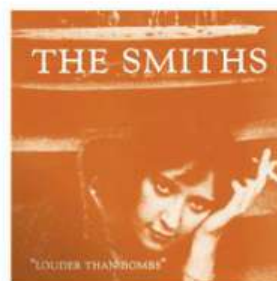
Words **FRANCIS INTON**

Records have come back fashionably over the last few years and many audiophiles rant about "Remastered Records" on their sacred forums.

Remastering a record is simply mixing up the music again. It may be taken from the original analog tapes it was recorded on or the digital recording it was done in, hence digital remastering, which is a whole new level of nerdiness that we do not want to get into here.

Remastered records are best if you don't want pops and hisses annoying you when you listen to your records. An audio guru I knew told me that "pops and hisses are not part of a recording." A mint classic rock record would be hard to find without some scratches here and there; a pop in your favorite riff or the needle jumping out onto the next verse of the song while you're singing along to it happens.

The absence of these is where you would adore a remastered record. It is clean and brand new. Off the bat, here are some of my favorite remastered records that you'd want to check out. But remember: the record may be a first press or a remaster, a 33 or 45, but at the end of the day, what's important is the music. It's always about the music.



LOUDER THAN BOMBS **The Smiths**

Hear Johnny Marr's riff. Hear Morrissey sulk. Together, they are superb.

Tracks on the original release 1987 double LP were a bit inconsistent sonically; some were louder than others. That becomes a problem when you turn the volume up to 10 on a quiet track then the louder track comes next. But when Marr "Oscillate Wildly" on his guitar and Morrissey sings "Sixteen, clumsy and shy," you are thrown back to some deep melancholy.

Listen to this album on a rainy day or when you want a hug.



SGT. PEPPER'S LONELY HEARTS CLUB BAND (MONO) **The Beatles**

If you grew up with the band and would want an authentic Beatles experience, score this. The people behind the remastered album went back to Abbey Road Studios and cleaned all the original quarter inch tapes. The tapes were used again and meticulously remastered by award-winning engineers with an audiophile-minded undertaking.

All mono versions have stereo releases, but better get the mono remastered. It is how the band would've sounded in the '60s.



PLACEBO Placebo

Everything recorded in the mid '90s is considered digitally remastered since all the recordings that time were made using digital studio tech. Placebo's debut album was first released in 1996 in CD format and is remastered this year on vinyl.

The difference in sound may not be obvious. But for sure, this big 12" LP with awesome artwork and photography is more beautiful than a small plastic CD.



PASTEL BLUES Nina Simone

I began listening to Nina when I got bored listening to Ella. Nina has now replaced Ella on my female vocal (*momol*) playlist. I have a couple of Nina's Japan-pressed vinyl records, which sound pristine. But Music On Vinyl (musiconvinyl.com) is doing a good job remastering the Nina classics just right—no fuss, right balance, very clean.

And please, please, *please* don't buy the 4 Men With Beards releases because they really suck.



COLD FACT Rodriguez

Saw the movie. Bought the LP. Loved the LP.

Sixto "Sugarman" Rodriguez's story is the stuff legends are made of. I am still on the hunt for an original pressing of this underrated classic, but this will do for now.



KIND OF BLUE Miles Davis

The greatest jazz album of all time is honored with several remastered versions—from 180g, 50th anniversary remastered to half-speed remastered, deluxe, colored, mono, stereo, and so many more audiophile geekiness that's pretty incomprehensible to me.

It would be great to try the 2001 Classic Records release. The 200g heavy weight has the most accurate speed of all of the reissues. The moment Freddie Cobb's drum snare hits you on "So, What," that's it. Close your eyes and you are transported to a small, dark, cigar-filled room in the '50s.



LED ZEPPELIN II Led Zeppelin

No matter how many times you may have listened to Led Zep, you would never have heard Led Zeppelin like this before.

The remastered issue of *Led Zeppelin II* was released last year as a chronological succession of remastering of all their LPs (with each album remastered by Led Zep guitarist and producer Jimmy Page). What OC-ness is this?

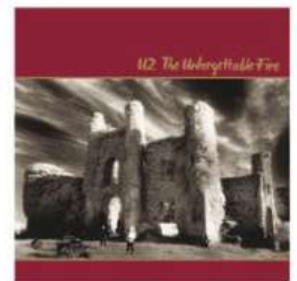
This record should be included in your hall-of-fame remastered collection. Go take out your air guitar, put the needle on "Ramble On," and you will know why.



RUMORS Fleetwood Mac

It doesn't have to take a "special limited edition" sticker plastered on the sleeve to buy this remastered gem. This is a 12" LP on 45rpm record spread into two LPs. That means the sound is made perfect in every way: dynamic bass range, dead center vocals, big drums, and crashing cymbals. And that's only on the "Dreams" track.

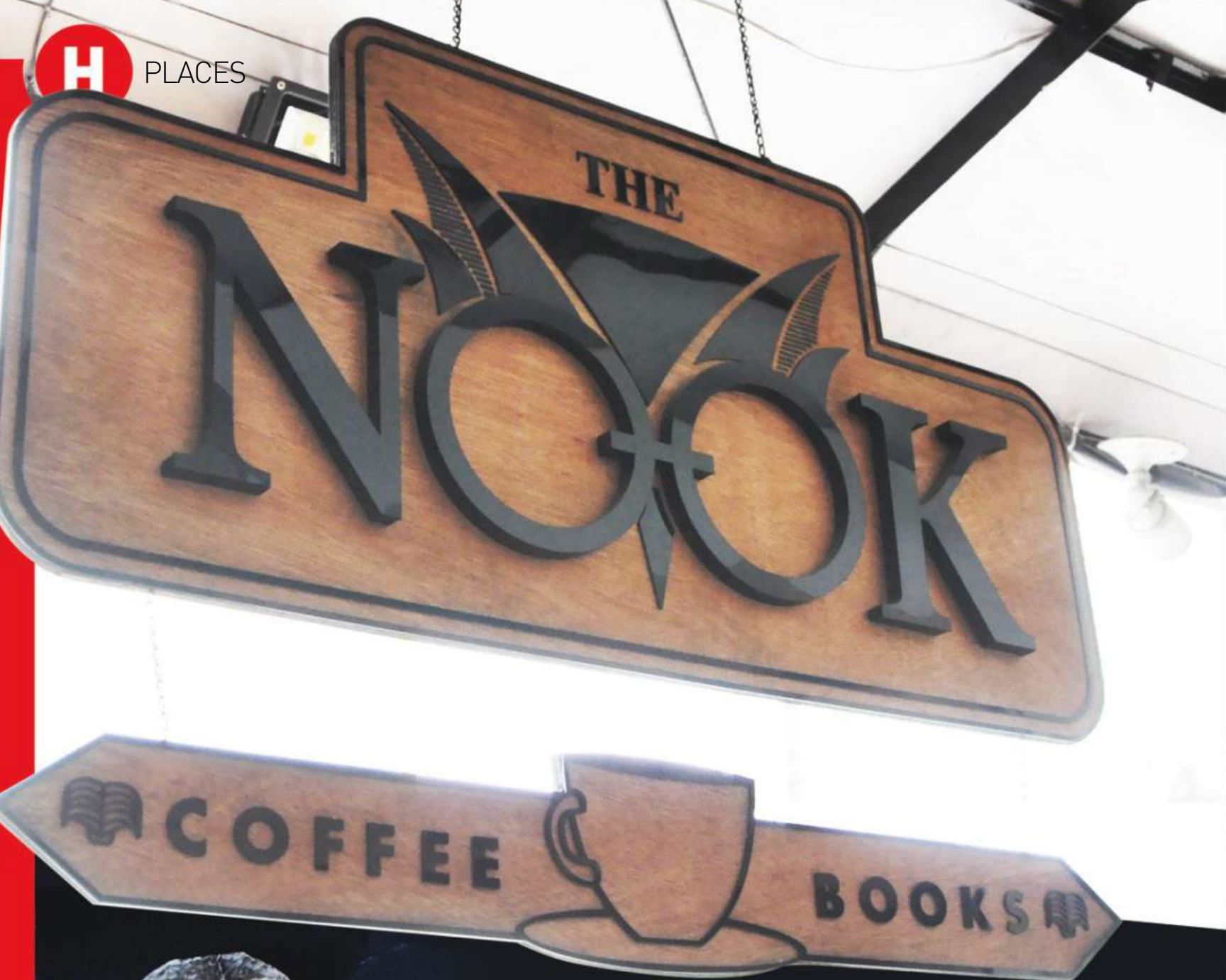
I have two copies of original Ken Perry Capitol Records masters, but this Hoffman-Grey remaster has solidified my belief that Stevie Nicks is my soulmate. The only drawback is, you have to shell out big bucks for this one.



THE UNFORGETTABLE FIRE U2

One reason: The Edge (lead guitarist David Howell Evans) never sounded this good in this remastered album. That's because he remastered this himself!





WELCOMING FEAST

THE NOOK CAFÉ

Words **PAT CALICA**
Photos **MELAI BALITAAN**

The Nook Café
164A Maginhawa St.,
Sikatuna Village, Quezon City
Open from 1:00 p.m. to 10 p.m.
[facebook.com/TheNookCafe](https://www.facebook.com/TheNookCafe)

Potterheads, pack your trunks and come aboard! You are in for a magical little trip—not in the Wizarding world, but somewhere closer to home. No permission slips needed.

Along the busy street of Maginhawa, Quezon City's foodie central, stands a quaint coffee shop called The Nook Café. Like the famous Leaky Cauldron, this café seems ordinary to the unsuspecting eye, but is really a gateway for fans to indulge in the *Harry Potter* world.

A big signage that bears the logo and name of The Nook Café greets you in front, which is a dead giveaway of what the place is all about. Owl and round-framed glasses—looks familiar? And if you solemnly swear you're up to no good, you can step inside and let the magic happen.

ALOHOMORA

Open the doors of The Nook Café and you'll see how a nook it really is. Its cozy, charming space has five tables—indoor and outdoor combined—on the first floor. The attic-like second level can accommodate 8 to 10 people.

The Nook Café is the first-ever *Harry Potter*-themed café in the country, born out of the imagination and passion for the *Harry Potter* series of owner Nicole Guiano. And as a big throwback to the series that inspired her love for reading, the café is adorned with knick-knacks you have read or have watched in the *HP* movies.

The walls are painted with the scenic views of the Hogwarts grounds created by the design duo of whattheEF Anne Eustaquio and Ding Flores. And there are owl designs everywhere—imprinted on the counter and tabletops, as figurines, and splashed on the walls as murals. There's even a Quidditch broom suspended to look like it's flying in mid-air.

Under the stairs going to the second floor is a cupboard similar to where Harry stayed at the Dursley residence, with a life-sized standee of

Dobby waiting inside. On the brick wall beside the cupboard is a Ministry of Magic Regulations, adding a subtle geeky touch to the place.

COZY COMMON ROOM

The real magical experience happens upstairs. Designed to look like one of Hogwarts' common rooms—red and green cushions strewn around low wooden tables—the second level of The Nook Café is the perfect place for you and your friends to geek about *Harry Potter*. You can borrow board games and card game sets, and hang out a *la* Golden Trio.

If it isn't redundant, you can refresh your *Harry Potter* knowledge by reading the complete set of *Harry Potter* books displayed on the bookshelves. If you want to take advantage of the little hammock on the corner, there are other series available for your perusal such as *Twilight*, *Divergent*, and *Percy Jackson*.

Of course, you wouldn't leave The Nook Café without bringing home a memento with you. Use the student robes, scarfs, *Harry Potter*'s glasses, and magic wands to get that Hogwarts-worthy picture.

ACCIO BUTTERBEER!

If curiosity isn't enough to invite you inside The Nook Café, then perhaps the signage that says "Harry Potter-inspired drink: Butter Beer" will do the trick. The café's frothy version of the wizarding drink—a magical mixture of caramel and butterscotch—will leave your taste buds tingling.

The Nook Café also serves scrumptious snacks to keep you satisfied during your stay. From cakes and sandwiches to pastas and finger foods, you and your friends can have a spread that rivals Hogwarts' start-of-the-term feast.

Start with the **Cheese Potato Wedges** (P95) that are hand-cut right in the kitchen and seasoned with herbs and Parmesan cheese. Take a bite of their **Grilled Cheese Panini** (P110) while sampling the **Spicy Sardine Pasta** (P140). The **Bacon Wrapped Chicken** (P140)—four juicy chicken chunks each wrapped in crispy bacon, dipped in raw honey—is a must-order.

Aside from the in-demand **Butter Beer** (P100), the **Goya-zilla** (P75) cooler made of crushed ice, chocolate, and cookies or the **Goya-saur** (P75) hot chocolate can stand in for a Chocolate Frog when you've just run in with some Dementors. Soothe the food-heavy tummy with a warm **Caramel Macchiato** (P95).

The Nook Café is specially appealing to book lovers, foodies, and of course, HP fans. So, grab your broomsticks, board the Hogwarts Express, or ride your enchanted cars and wander along Maginhawa for a taste of the magical *Harry Potter* universe.

And that's another mischief managed. For now.



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- I. Resolution: 300 dpi
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III. The participants will create work based on the following theme.

#DIGITALPINOYAKO

This year, NDAA aims to highlight works from the Filipino youth – their interpretation of the Philippines as a country that continues to rise with the help of digital technology. All participants should create works that show the integration of technology and rich visual media as integral to nation-building, instilling nationalism in every Filipino, and how moving forward our young people can influence culture using positive values towards affirmative change.

A total of Php 1,000,000 cash and prizes to be won.

To view the full mechanics please visit our website:
www.ndaa.globaltronics.net

FOR MORE INFO VISIT :  /NDAAPhilippines  @NDAAPhilippines  <http://www.ndaa.globaltronics.net>

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THE NEW
Address
A GLOBAL SUZUKI SCOOTER

INTRODUCTORY
PROMO
FREE



SUZUKI FI FUEL INJECTION
POWERFUL 113CC ENGINE
AT LOW FUEL CONSUMPTION



SEP
SUZUKI ECO PERFORMANCE



20L UTILITY BOX
20L UTILITY BOX
CAN ACCOMMODATE
A FULL FACE HELMET



**REAR BRAKE LOCK
SYSTEM**



**CENTRALIZED
LOCKING SYSTEM**



Actual colors of promo items may
vary based on availability.

Promo runs from August 20 - December 31, 2015
Per DTI IV-A Permit No. 12-360 series of 2015

In association with Suzuki Philippines

RIDE YOUR FLARE

Suzuki Address



WANT TO ROAM THE CITY OR METRO OUTSKIRTS IN SPEED AND STYLE? HOP ON AND SLICE THE WIND RIDING ONE OF SUZUKI'S LATEST GLOBAL SCOOTERS TO REACH PHILIPPINE SHORES, THE SUZUKI ADDRESS.



Designed as a low-cost, fuel-efficient scooter, the Address exudes a vibrant angst—sharply trimmed edges, a sleek body, and edgy-crafted head lamps—a chic ensemble that perfectly complements the stylish and active Filipino youth.

But Suzuki packs more than looks into its new beast. This scooter is powered by a 113cc 4-stroke 1-cylinder SOHC engine that can blast away up to 6.9kW @ 8,000rpm or a maximum torque of 8.7Nm @ 6,500rpm, all while paired to a CVT transmission engine.

Further boosting the Address' appeal are its internal features, including the state-of-the-art fuel efficiency technology by Suzuki, a full bunch of safety features, and a roomy seat and compartment space—perfect for your all-around utility.

The fusion of Suzuki Eco Performance technology and Suzuki Fuel Injection System promises increased fuel efficiency without compromising power and performance. By keenly focusing on design and detail during the manufacturing process, the system was able to significantly reduce mechanical loss.

SEPFi FUEL INJECTION
SUZUKI ECO PERFORMANCE



With safety in mind, Suzuki equips the Address with a rear brake-lock system that gives stability to the scooter when locked in an engaged position and helps stabilize the bike when parking using the side stand. Further, a centralized locking system helps avoid unwanted theft.

A roomy 20.6-liter capacity under seat storage, meanwhile, can capacitate up to a full-face helmet and a number of small items, while a large floor board allows your foot to rest comfortably while breezing through the streets. You can carry more items while on the go thanks to the two large front inner pockets with hook.

The Address comes with an easy-to-read instrument panel, while ensuring you a long free-sailing ride is a built-in 5.2-liter fuel tank.

The Suzuki Address, priced at P66,900 is available in Titan Black, Metallic Medium Blue/Titan Black, Celebration Red/Titan Black, and MotoGP Limited Edition Blue.

FEATURES

LARGE CAPACITY UTILITY BOX

Safely hidden underneath your seat is a 20.6-liter utility box that can accommodate even a full-sized helmet

SAFE LOCKING SYSTEM

Keeping your bike and stored items away from theft is a built-in centralized locking system

STABLE BRAKING SYSTEM

A rear brake-lock system ensures your safety and stability when parking or when on the move

SAVE FUEL WITHOUT COMPROMISING PERFORMANCE

Suzuki Eco Performance technology and the Suzuki Fuel Injection System keep your ride fuel efficient yet uncompromisingly powerful





THE NEW **GSX-S150** DEBUT!



BRACE FOR AN
EXX HILARATING
RIDE

POWERFUL 155cc SUZUKI ENGINE

with Suzuki Eco Performance to deliver a smooth running condition at low fuel consumption.

SEP
SUZUKI ECO PERFORMANCE



DUAL-TYPE EXHAUST MUFFLER



Dual-outlet muffler (first in Suzuki's small motorcycles) is designed for high exhaust efficiency

MONO-SHOCK SUSPENSION



Mono-shock rear suspension for better riding comfort and handling stability.

FULL-DIGITAL INSTRUMENT PANEL



Flat panel design looks like a smartphone. Engine RPM indicator is the same Hayabusa and GSX-R1000 in specification.



IDEAL MASS TRANSPORT SYSTEM

It

IS NO LONGER IDEAL TO DRIVE

your car on Metro Manila streets. Daily updates from the MMDA app show that almost all major roads have medium to heavy traffic, while the Waze app displays roads in maroon, which is code for standstill or heavy traffic. When you add nature's wrath and the eventual floods, our roads are converted into parking lots.

People's patience is already at its thinnest, and the call for action is at a fever pitch. MMDA Chairman Francis Tolentino is already being asked to step down by an online petition that has more than 9,000 signatures as of this writing.

So, how do you solve this seemingly insurmountable traffic problem? A lot of theories are being and will be presented. Like you, I have an ideal mass transport system in mind. If I were Department of Transportation and Communications Secretary, I would like to implement the following:

SHORT TERM

City buses to use only designated stops.

Buses will have its doors automatically triggered by designated stops and will not be opened if it is in the wrong stop. There will be a GPS system on buses to help implement this, penalizing erring buses with the proper evidence.

Metro railway to be revived. The best forms of transport are the trains and rail systems. The government should prioritize the revival of the PNR, and make the different MRT and LRT systems all coincide with the inter-modal provincial bus terminals of both North and South Luzon. There should also be additional roads made through the right of way of the PNR and converted into tollways to help the ailing government agency.

Water transport to be revived. The Pasig River boat project should be given subsidies to turn it into a viable option. The project should also be granted long term loans and tax credits to buy proper boats equipped with air conditioning and propulsion systems. Roll On-Roll Off fast

boats will also be given subsidies to ferry vehicles and passengers to the different islands.

Rationalized metro bus company for C5 route.

A pilot project of a rationalized, single-operator bus company will operate C5 with new, electric or hybrid, double-decker buses on ground and a dedicated bus lane. Ensuring fast boarding of passengers is the use of prepaid cards, while pick-ups will be at designated stops only.

MID TERM

Rationalization of metro bus transport system.

All the Metro buses should be put under one or two operators that will run them together with government subsidies, implement good compensation packages for drivers, manage the company profitably, and acquire new buses. This will eliminate the different bus operators' history of making EDSA their own terminal, picking up passengers in any place for their commission-based salary.

Redesign jeepneys to carry more passengers.

Passengers must be able to stand inside jeepneys, making it easier to get in and out. Jeepneys should have air conditioning also. This will be like the airport shuttles in the U.S. that can carry more than the old-style jeepney.

Provincial railways to be revived. The cheapest form of commuting will be needed to transfer goods and people into the city. This should be privatized to make it viable in the long run and taken care of professionally.

Double-decker buses for metro. This will be good for our very limited road spaces and will be able to carry more passengers than a single decker bus. This will be powered by alternative energies like electric, hydrogen, or hybrid technologies with air conditioning as a required amenity. The public buses in the U.K. will be our ideal basis for this.

LONG TERM

Metro subway to be launched. A subway system will be operational by the year 2030. This very expensive system is not the right solution for the moment and should be done only when we have exhausted the rail systems, above and on ground. However, it is definitely worth its weight in gold.

Circumferential metro railway and roadways to be implemented. The Manila Bay and Laguna de Bay shores can be used to form elevated highways with rail systems that provide additional routes to get into Manila. The interconnection of the North and South Expressways will surely help and will be a good lesson if the concept takes off.

MIKE POTENCIANO



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COVER GIRL



Queen of the world

MEGAN YOUNG

INTERVIEW BY
PAT CALICA

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
MARLON PECJO

MEGAN YOUNG



Behind all the glitz and glamour that comes with being a beauty queen and a celebrity, Megan Young possesses a demeanor that suggests both sophistication and childlikeness—graceful movement and shy smiles, confident yet ever in awe.



Megan

arrived at the location wearing the most comfortable clothes imaginable: white shorts, loose button down shirt, and a pair of clean-white canvas shoes. It has been two years since *Speed's* last interview with this gorgeous lady, and from being crowned Miss World 2013 to taking on the role of a well-loved television character, a lot of things happened with her life in between. But Megan slips so readily into familiarity that it's hard to imagine how long it has been since we caught up with her.

AND THE BEST

This is Megan's fourth *Speed* cover and just one of the many magazine covers she has graced on since she started her showbiz career. For someone who deals with all the glitz and glamour in and out of the spotlight, she surely knows how to work the camera. "It's just really going with the flow. It's like you're naturally moving, although a bit more stylized. Not too many big movements."

How was this photo shoot for you? We wrapped up quite fast.

It was good. I mean I worked with a group of people that I've been working with for a number of years already. We all know how each other works. [We just go] together so perfectly.



“What turns me on is somebody [who] is very smart and articulate...”

Congratulations on getting the role of Marimar, by the way. Tell us about your preparations for such a sexy role.

Doing these kinds of role isn't new to me. I've been doing, not provocative, something that is not teeny bopper anymore.

What's new to me about this show is the premise and how the character grew up. I haven't been given roles like that, so the preparation for me would be going back to my roots like where I grew up when I was in grade school [and] how our life was like in the province.

Kasi Marimar is kind of childlike; at the same time, she's *palaban*. The great thing about that is I'm kind of like that as well. I love living life to the extreme and I'll be nice, but if I know that something is being wronged then I'll fight for that with all my heart. I will question it if I know that something isn't being done right.

How daring can you go for a role?

I don't often have limitations. As long as *hindi siya bastusin*, I'm okay to do certain roles.

Have you ever said no to a role before?

Yes, I have. When I was younger, *hindi naman ako* particular. But as I got older, [I've become] very particular with script and all that.

Before accepting any project, you make sure to at least read the script?

Yes, of course, unless I really trust the person and the project. I don't think I would really jump in a project because it's there and there's money. I don't think that's a smart way to do things, especially in such a creative industry.

Do you remember the roles you've said no to?

No. (laughs) That's probably why I said no to them.

Smart move. You were crowned Miss World 2013 after your last *Speed* cover. Tell us about your reign.

It involved a lot of charity work around the world—that's the best part. It's not just all glitz and glamour; it's also making sure that you're able to help out these people and at the same time you learn stuff long the way. When I was traveling, I was learning how things are being run, how people go about these things, and how they choose their project *para* when I come back home, at least I can apply that to my future projects here in the Philippines.

You must have traveled a lot then.

Gadgets [helped me stay in touch]. That's the best thing about this day and age; it's so easy to communicate with each other.

Do you have any personal charity work or causes that you continue to promote?

Well, we work closely with PGH (Philippine General Hospital). We work with the Pre-natal Unit and the Cancer Unit for kids. We also support Tuloy Foundation, which is a foundation that supports street children or children that can't afford to go to school. It teaches [the kids] not only academics but also life skills.

GAMER GIRL

"People think that I'm very athletic but I'm not," the 25-year-old actress admitted. Megan certainly has the physique of someone who could play basketball, volleyball, or any sport for that matter. However, she confessed to being more of a geek.

"I was really the computer type of girl. I was really the techie in the family. My mom would have to force me to get off the computer just to socialize with everyone because I was just there on my desktop all by myself."

Seems like our kind of person. What do you do on your mobile phone?

Play games? (laughs) I really like [playing games]. That's my vice. I have been told off by friends many times to get off my phone because I'm just there playing games. When I finish one [game], I have to go check my other one then I have to check the other one.

What are the games you're currently playing?

One is *Fallout Shelter*, [where] you just have to create shelter for your people. Then I have one called *AdVenture Capitalist* and it is [for] stocks. And then I have one called *Patchmania*. And last is *Path to Luma*.

Wow. That's a lot of games. Let's talk about gadgets. What was your latest purchase?

I haven't purchased a gadget in so long. I think the last gadget I bought was my Polaroid camera.

You're into photography, too? How many cameras do you own?

A lot. I like collecting lomography cameras. I don't use them as much anymore, but I have my wide Instax, normal Instax, and different [others].

How many toy cameras are we talking about here?

I have a Holga, Diana, Diana Mini, and Fisheye. I have two Fisheyes. That's it. I have five.

How did that interest start?

I got one for Christmas. My first one was the Holga 120. I asked for it because on my first shoot with *Speed*, I was holding a Holga camera. [It was] your fault, guys!

I loved [the Holga], so I went online, I researched about it, and I fell in love with the dynamic of it—that you don't know what your pictures [are going to look like]. Because in this day and age, *wala na tayong* patience when it comes to pictures. *Kuha na lang nang kuha*, so I love the fact that I really have to study what I want to take a picture of.

You said in your last interview with *Speed* that you're an Apple fan. We can see that is still the case. What do you look for when buying gadgets?

If it's user-friendly. I don't like things that are too complicated [to use]. I like it if all my products can sync easily *kasi* it would be hard [if they don't].

Design-wise, I think it's the simple stuff. I don't need colorful gadgets. All I need is something that functions well.



EVERYDAY
GADGETS
iPhone 6 Plus,
MacBook Air, iMac
GADGET SHE
CAN'T LIVE
WITHOUT
iPhone 6 Plus
MOST USED APPS
WhatsApp,
Instagram, Gmail,
Uber, Facebook
FAVORITE APP
Freeletics
INSTAGRAM
@meganbata

**What are the top three gadgets on your wish list?**

I want the new iMac. I need to update my iMac. *Medyo [luma] na siya.* I also want a Leica camera and maybe a really nice watch.

Any piece of technology from your childhood that you miss the most?

I think it would definitely be the classic Polaroid, the square one. *'Yun 'yung nakaka-miss.* As a kid, I have a lot of photos [and] I took a lot of photos. *Wala man lang* composition or anything but it's just there. And it's something that I really enjoyed.

Are you a smartphone or a tablet person?

I have a tablet but I keep forgetting to charge it. I only use it when I have a long haul flight or I have a game that's easier to use on a tablet—that's when I use my iPad. I'm more of a smartphone person.

How do you use technology in your work?

To communicate; that's number one. To communicate and get things done, get schedules across. [Technology] keeps us in touch with our work.

How long do you spend online every day?

If you're on your phone, then you're online 24/7.

What do you usually post about?

I don't usually post. I just like to look. I post where I go, like the places that I visit, [to show] the beauty of the places that I go to.

Any no-nos when it comes to posting on social media?

Try to keep your feelings off the internet, I guess. It's okay to vent things out, but there are right ways to do things. A no-no for me is negativity online or bashing because in this industry, if there's something wrong, *wag mo nang paringgan 'yung tao.* Just talk to the person.

How do you handle negative comments online?

Sometimes negative comments [are] not constructive criticism at all. They're going to put you down. It's not worth my time. And there's always a delete and block button.

What accessories do you have for your gadgets?

I have this [ring stand holder] and that's it. I used to [put cases] but I'm really *burara.* I don't put cases on my laptop, too. *Bumibigat kasi.* I have a screen guard; that's all I need.

I'm not the kind of person who use [a gadget] for a while and then sell it. I'll use it until it breaks.

How do you take care of your gadgets?

Normal. I'm not "Oh my! *May gasgas.*" I'm not going to freak out. It's a gadget. Even I have scratches on my legs, on my arms.

What technology or gadget that should have been invented by now?

Teleport machine. To keep us away from traffic.

“I was really the computer type of girl. I was really the techie in the family.”



Shirt by **SPEED** •
glasses **MODEL'S OWN**

**MODERN-DAY MARIA CLARA**

We talked about hobbies, weekends, and of course suitors, revealing cute surprises about Megan like the fact that she wants to be courted properly, that she backs off when a guy gets too flirty, and that it would take a lot of dates before a guy even gets a kiss from her.

Winning Miss World must have tripled your suitors.

No. I'm *masungit* when it comes to guys.

Ah, you intimidate guys. So, how does one win your attention in a crowded room?

If he can carry on a good conversation. But the thing is, I can be very nice. I'm very talkative. But sometimes when I sense that a guy is getting too flirty, I tend to back off *na*.

What attracts you in a guy?

What turns me on is somebody [who] is very smart and articulate and *sobrang* comfortable with themselves but not *mayabang* about it.

Fair enough. What turns you off in a guy?

What turns me off is *'yung mga feeling. Pinagmamayabang nila kung anong meron sila.*

What's your favorite part of a man's body?

I guess I like broad shoulders. *'Wag masyado pero alam mo 'yung fit siya.*

Any tips on what a man should do or not do on a first date?

With guys, I can be very conservative. If I don't feel that it's right then maybe I won't kiss you. I really like to get to know the person before we kiss.

How many dates before the kiss?

A lot. *Gusto ko may ligaw.*

What's the sweetest thing a guy can do for you?

Take care of my family or love my family as much as I love them.

What's the deal breaker in a relationship for you?

Cheating. I'll break up with you.

Take note, guys. How do you usually spend your weekends?

Playing games or working out. I don't go out a lot. I'm a home buddy, so I'll be at a coffee shop, in the gym, or at home.

When you're all stressed out, how do you unwind?

Just by being at home, eating a chocolate cake or something.

Sounds like our kind of unwinding! Some of your Instagram posts show you dabbling in calligraphy. How did that hobby start?

I just wanted to try it out, so I joined the class. I've just been practicing since, which is really something that I enjoyed doing. I'm getting better but there's a certain level that I want to eventually be at. That's why I keep practicing also.

Any other hobbies you have?

Reading. I'm really boring, sorry.

Reading is not boring at all. Do you like printed books or e-books?

Both. When I'm on the go, especially when I'm flying, it's easier to have my Kindle app for iPad, so I usually get that. But nothing beats a good book.

What are you reading now?

I'm reading *The Power of the Actor* (Ivana Chubbuck).

What's your favorite book of all time?

Fight Club. I like Chuck Palahniuk. He's my favorite author.

Beauty and brains. If you didn't get into show business or beauty pageants, what would you be doing now?

I'd probably be working for a magazine. My dream as a child was really to be an Editor-in-Chief.

Cool! If you want to give magazine life a shot, give us a call!

GEEK-SPOTTING

Meet the geeks.

No, they're not the eyeglass-wearing, backpack-carrying, socially awkward people who pop culture has molded into a bad stereotype. They are the experts and the enthusiasts who show an inordinate amount of passion for a certain field, topic, or activity.

Speed scours the streets for these different types of geeks—from intellectuals to die-hard aficionados, from professionals to devout amateurs. They are aplenty, and we aim to showcase what a special bunch they are by featuring a select few one issue at a time.



MAXLEE MERIDA
Social media officer,
Smart Communications, Inc.

What makes up your everyday tech gear?

I never leave home without my Samsung GALAXY S6 and two ASUS power banks with me. I can literally do everything with it that I don't need any other device.

What's a typical day like as a social media analyst?

I track conversations and engagements for work. My day often begins with me browsing through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc., and checking how well our campaigns are doing by using this really cool tool called Radian6.

What are the common misconceptions that people have about your job?

People who are so used to traditional marketing often think that it's easy, bordering leisure, when in fact there is a science behind it. It's super hard to keep track of engagements and conversations—first, because of the sheer volume; and second, coming up with the right keywords to isolate the relevant online conversations from what's not.

What apps do you use for your work?

Radian6 mostly, which also has a mobile app. It's paid though. Buffer, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram are the other staples.

Personally, what do you post about on social media?

Anything and everything that interests me—the music I listen to, food articles I've read, interesting quotes I saw on the Artparasites, or an inspiring story from HONY. Basically anything that I'd like to share to other people and my friends.

What is the one thing that people should never do on social media?

I go by the saying: "If you don't have anything nice to say, then don't say it at all." I personally keep my social media accounts free of hatred and judgment; I just keep it light and fun. Go crazy! If you feel posting [something], then go. [But] reread everything before posting or sharing so you don't regret the aftermath.

What are the top three gadgets on your wish list?

I'm considering a smartwatch—the Motorola Moto 360 looks really sleek. The Sony Cyber-shot QX10 looks nifty and will definitely up my IG game. I'm no Apple person, but the new MacBook is so pretty, I just might get one.

What are your favorite mobile apps?

Deezer is my go-to music app. [It has a] great library and streams blazing fast! Super cheap, too. Line is my chat app because of the stickers. [I use] Swarm because it's fun to be the pseudo mayor of a certain place you often visit. Afterlight for my photo editing needs. And whenever I get bored, I play *Hearthstone*.

Favorite smartphone or tablet accessory:

Cases because I can be quite careless with my devices. And earphones! I'm a huge music junkie. Right now Coloud and Urbanears are my favorites.





MILLET LIBERATO
Media Relations Director,
DDB Public Relations

What is your typical day like as a PR professional?

A mix of internal alignments, client pitches, and press conferences. My Monday mornings start at 7AM and while having coffee, I monitor the daily news reports on clients—industry and breaking news. The first day of the week is routinely dedicated for internal alignments with all account executives on project lists and seeding press releases to the media. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, we're normally out of office for client meetings or events. Thursdays and Fridays are for post-event and administrative concerns, and these days are mostly open to meet media and celebrity ambassadors for campaign collaborations. Evenings are usually spent at the BGC neighborhood jogging around with my fiancé and checking out new restaurants.

Beyond your PR work, are you a geek or a techie yourself?

I can say that since I handle a lot of tech accounts—PLDT, LG Electronics, Brother, among others—I've been very much oriented on what's trending in technology. Not to the point of a tried-and-tested-to-the-core true tech nerd, but more of an appreciator of superhero movies and the latest gadgets like smartphone and its features and apps.

Your everyday tech gear?

LG G4, iPhone 6, iPad mini, Xiaomi 16000mAh power bank

What are the top 3 gadgets on your wishlist?

65-inch LG Curved Super UHD TV, LG 4-Door French Door Refrigerator, and Marshall Stanmore Bluetooth speaker

What's your favorite smartphone/tablet accessory?

Moschino McDonald's French Fries iPhone and iPad cases

How active are you on social media?

Hyperactive. Addiction, if I may say.

Well, so are most of the people we know! As a PR person, how important is social media for you?

Thanks to social media, PR professionals have benefited from the added access to wealth of content that can be used to create PR plans and shared with clients. We can now use social media, blogs, reviews, and content to not just share news, but to also connect.

Any social media etiquette rule you live by?

Keep your posts positive (if not, neutral) to avoid issues and unwanted attention. As the saying goes, "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all."

How else can technology improve your job?

Learn, learn, learn. It's never been more important to always continue learning—fresh skills are critical to my success as a public relations professional. I have to challenge myself to constantly learn and apply new skills/technology to what I am doing. With technology, communication becomes faster, easier, and more accessible. In our job, communication is very crucial.

What tech or gadget should've been invented by now?

In an attempt to drift away from the clichéd (but much desired) wish of flying cars, projection conference calls just like in *Star Wars*, *Harry Potter* invisibility cloaks, let's just say [I long for] smartphones and laptops with unbelievable lasting batteries, and 3D glasses with grades that don't give you headache.



BANJO JOSON
Freelance Illustrator,
Product Designer
behance.net/banjoson

What products do you design?

Bags and shirts. I'm currently working on designs for my own brand, but I don't plan on releasing the designs online anytime soon; we're currently in the prototyping stages.

Who are the artists you follow online or look up to?

I follow a lot of artists online; most of my social media feed consists of artists' posts. My recent favorites are illustrators Kim Jung Gi (@kimjunggius), brothers Tomer (@tropical_toxic) and Assaf Hanuka (@RealistComics), and Alberto Mielgo (@albertomielgo). I also follow younger local artists like Kay Aranzano (@kayaranzano) and Rob Cham (@robcham).

What makes up your everyday tech gear as an illustrator/designer?

I have a work station built around the latest Intel i7 and the Quadro K4000, which is really good for OpenGL software, coupled with two Dell U3014s for maximum screen space. You can never get enough screen space when working and of course, the Wacom Intuos tablets.

I used to have a desktop Cintiq, but I rarely used it in my past job, so I had to let it go. I've been returning to traditional media recently, so a good camera is also useful for quickly digitizing hand-drawn stuff or taking photos when on the move. That's why I do make it a habit to always have a camera around.

What is the one gadget that you can't leave home without?

The one gadget I can't leave home without is my phone (Samsung GALAXY S6 edge).

What are the top 3 gadgets on your wish list?

My current top 3 are the Wacom Cintiq Companion, Pentax 645-series medium format camera, and Epson Surecolor F6200 sublimation printer.

What type of app would greatly help artists?

An app that can identify the artist of an image would probably be helpful.

If there was a gadget or technology that should have already been invented, what would it be?

Interactive 3D holographic imaging technology. Like the *Star Wars* holodiscs.

How do you arrange your app icons?

I like to keep my phone to a bare minimum, so the first page is usually [made up of] the basic messaging (SMS, email, messenger, and social media), planner, weather, and recording apps. I relegate the non-essentials to the second page.

How do you take care of your devices?

I'm abusive with my gadgets, usually pushing them to the edge, so I stick with the really heavy duty gear for minimal care.



What is your favorite smartphone or tablet accessory?

The Wacom "Penabled" tablet pens are good for creating while mobile.

**MARK ISAIHA DAVID**PR Manager, Epson
Philippines Corporation pinoygeeknextdoor.
blogspot.com

@Moks

moks00

**We heard you're a gamer. What video games are you trying to finish now?**

I'm still taking contracts and killing monsters in *Witcher III*—it's such a huge game that there's always something (enjoyable) to do. After watching the trailer of *XCOM2*, I've dusted off my old *XCOM: Enemy Within* to 'practice.' But I imagine everything will be put on hold when Blizzard finally releases *StarCraft 2: Legacy of the Void*. This is the final chapter of a decades-long story, and it would be bittersweet to finally know the final fates of Sarah, Jim, and Zeratul.

And we just opened Pandora's box. What video games do you play on your smartphone or tablet?

On mobile, I keep myself entertained with *Marvel Future Fight* in those interminable hours stuck in traffic. I was pleasantly surprised with the amount of content the game offers, and I've ended up doing something I normally avoid: shelling some real-world money in a mobile game. I've also recently tried out *Fallout Shelter*, but I don't know...it failed to engage me.

Oh, if you have *Magic: The Gathering* on your Android, look for me on Google Play; I'm always up for a dance.

What are your game consoles and how much time do you spend playing on them?

I'm a PC guy. I started with the iconic Nintendo Famicom, and while I had a PS2 and a PS3 at one point, I sold them because they only ended up gathering dust in the house. Some guys have their cars, their guns, their comics, their golf clubs, their bikes...I have my PC. Don't ever let my wife meet my parts supplier; what she knows and what I actually paid for are two VERY different things.

What are your favorite mobile apps?

You Need A Budget (YNAB). When it's only been a week since your last payday, and you're already wondering what happened to your money, YNAB can help you. I first used it when my wife had a short-term assignment abroad and I was left managing the house solo. I'm proud to say I didn't forget paying our bills, mainly because I had fun allocating the funds using the app.

Spotify because James Taylor helps me write. Google Keep because if I don't write it down, I'm sure to forget it. Google Maps and Waze—as one of my father's terrible dad jokes go, *lahi kami ng ligawin* (that is, we get lost easily).

What is your wallpaper?

On my work laptop: a *Buffy The Vampire Slayer* illustration. For my home PC: interchanging photos of my toddler and wife. On my phone: stars in the night.

**What's your ringtone?**

Just one of those default tones. In one of my past jobs, I used that horror laugh in Michael Jackson's "Thriller" as a personal ringtone for my boss, but I've outgrown it.

**RAFFY PEDRAJITA**Professional
tech blogger

techptrl.com

pinoytravelblog.com

When and how did you get started in blogging?

I was influenced and mentored by Abe Olandres and started blogging in March 2010.

What are the best and worst things about being a professional blogger?

Best: I own my time, but I get no more weekends, Saturday and Sunday breaks, [and] no more holidays.

Worst: None yet. Hehe!

What other jobs did you have before you became a full-time professional blogger?

I used to be a sales account manager, involved in solution selling of top brands like Cisco, HP, Dell, and Avaya.

What tech gear do you bring with you when covering events and updating your online products while on the go?

My current fave is the Asus Zenfone 2 because it has LTE. I use it to upload photos on social media for immediate publication. I bring with me my Fujifilm X-T1 Graphite Silver camera with a 27mm pancake lens to take photos at events.

What is the one gadget that you can't leave home without?

A smartphone with mobile data

How do you spend your free time? Do you have hobbies or sports?

Tough question. Do I have free time? Haha. Wait, I box with my fiancée at least 2x a week. We go on random road trips. I play badminton, too!

What are the top three gadgets on your wish list?

3. A 6-inch smartphone with super huge battery capacity
2. Either a Fujinon XF56mm f/1.2 or Fujinon XF50-140mm f/2.8 OIS WR
1. Fujifilm X30 compact camera

What was your latest tech purchase?

Fujifilm X-T1 Graphite Silver mirrorless camera

What technology or gadget should've been invented by now?

Star Wars cars

What are your favorite mobile apps?

Waze, Google Maps, Pages Manager, Spotify, and Grab Taxi

How do you take care of your devices?

Wipe lang. Haha!

What is your favorite smartphone or tablet accessory?

Cheapo smartphone holder is okay.





SUBARU
BRZ
GT300

2015 LIMITED EDITION



SpeedTech x SUBARU BRZ GT300 2015 LIMITED EDITION

SpeedTech x SUBARU BRZ GT300 Collaboration Model released this year with limited worldwide production is characterized by its combination of a sharp case design based on the SUBARU BRZ GT300, a black-plated case and a urethane bracelet. It has been designed with emphasis on its sporty look. In addition, this watch comes with an Energy Recovery System (ERS), which uses the motion from the arm to rotate the spindle and automatically generate power and recharge the quartz movement.



The base color of the dial is black, which is the same as the case. This is combined with the orange scale, and the entire dial is thus designed to look like a speed meter. The parts at the 6 - and 10-o'clock positions that indicate the time both come in white, ensuring high visibility.



The hexagon design in the joint section of the bracelet has been designed based in the image of the front grill of the SUBARU BRZ GT300.

A blue aluminum ring has been placed around the bezel edges of the black-plated case, which results in a cool color contrast that accentuates the blue as the effect color.



DEMIE DANGLA
News/social media
writer,
abs-cbnnews.com



What sparked your interest in pursuing a career in media?

Ever since college, I have always been interested in various political and social issues, especially those confronting women and indigenous people. As a journalist, I want to help our nation by getting other people involved and by making them critical about issues that truly matter.

How is it like to write for an online news publication?

Online is ultimately a different medium, compared to print and broadcast. We have to adjust to the tendency of our readers to generate multiple links, and their short attention span. That's why the title of our articles should already be attention-grabbing, paragraphs should be shorter, and content should be more visual.

What does it entail to be a news writer and social media producer?

One of the things I have to do the moment I wake up is to immediately check my Twitter and Facebook for news and other updates. We have to be connected almost 24/7, especially if there are developing stories, in order to update other people as well.

Do you have an active personal social media account?

Yes. I usually share articles that I like or feel strongly about. I also share photos I take using my phone (no, I'm not fond of selfies). I also share funny, witty, and interesting contents I see on Facebook.

How vital is social media in today's society?

Actually, social media is only vital to a selected number of people since not even half of our country's population have access to the internet. However, it has been a vital part of the lives of social media users like me. With social media, communication is made easier. It has changed the way we live our lives. We can easily catch up on the latest news and look up something that piques our curiosity. But of course, internet speed is still an issue in the country.

What are your other hobbies?

Photography. I like to take photos of places and people, and share their stories.

What is the one gadget that you can't leave home without?

That would be my phone with internet connection/mobile data.

What are the top three gadgets on your wish list?

An upgraded phone, a mirrorless camera, and a Mac laptop

What is your favorite mobile app?

I like Instagram. Looking at photos is therapeutic for me.

What's on your smartphone's wallpaper?

A photo of nature to ease all the stress from the newsroom.



ACE RAMOS
Disc Jockey,
WD Influencer

[@djaceramos](https://www.instagram.com/djaceramos)



How would you describe your DJing style?

More on open format. More on crowd pleaser, crowd reader. *Kung ano yung uso*, I give it to them. I want to make them sing. *Parang pang gulat lang*.

What kind of music should we expect when you're the DJ?

It depends on the event, *sa place*. It depends *kung anong feel ng event*. *Pag festivals syempre mas serious*.

What are your gadget must-haves in DJing?

Laptop *na okay*. Have you seen the top-of-the-line 15-inch MacBook Pro [with an Intel i7 processor and 16GB RAM]? I use the system because it's fast. For storage, I'm using the WD MyPassport Pro *na Thunderbolt na 4TB*. *Kasi feeling ko kahit SSD, once na sama-sama na files mo dun, nahihirapan din ang system*.

What else do you use?

Headphones: Pioneer C70. Mixer: Pioneer *din*. 'Yun ang industry standard.

How important are digital media files and how do you keep them organized?

Very important. 'Yun *na 'yung music ko eh*—high-resolution digital in FLAC or WAV, *minsan AIF*. [I organize them] by release date then artist.

You're a WD influencer. What WD products do you use on a regular basis and what for?

Bawat set, ito (points to the 4TB WD MyPassport Pro). *May reserve akong isa [pang MyPassport Pro]*. *Parehas lang sila ng laman*. Backup *siya*.

What advice can you give those who want to start a career as a DJ?

Unang-una maging mabait ka. Dapat din willing ka matuto, magsimula sa maliit. Yung mga DJ kasi ngayon more on for fun eh. For them, *para maging cool lang [ang pag-DJ]*. Unlike us, way of living *namin ito*. *Ito ang nagbabayad ng bills namin*. If you have the passion for it, *maging successful ka. Kung wala, easy come, easy go*.

What are your everyday gadgets?

Apple iPhone 6 and Huawei Ascend Mate 7

What is on top of your gadget wishlist?

PS4 *na Stormtrooper*

What consoles do you have now?

Lahat. Gamer *talaga ako*. *Meron akong PS4, Xbox One, Xbox 360, and PSP*.

What was the last game that you finished?

GTA V.

Do you play mobile games?

PBA [Slam!] *pampalipas oras*.

What apps do you often use?

Waze, Facebook, Instagram, Apple Music, Viber, WhatsApp, and Uber.





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THESE!**



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Smash 115.



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RAIDER 115 FI



SUZUKI HELMET



**SPALDING
SPORTS WATCH**

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**Maagang Pamasko
Combo Regalo 2015**



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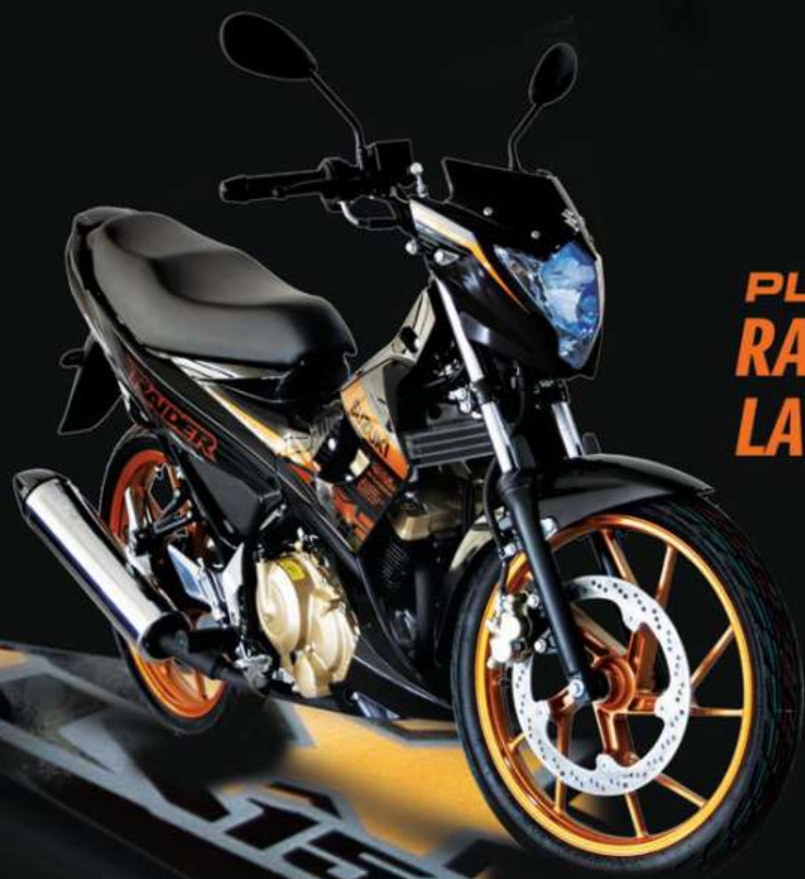


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DENIM RE-BORN

H&M launches new denim styles made from recycled textiles

SWEDISH FASHION RETAIL GIANT H&M RECENTLY INTRODUCED 16 NEW DENIM STYLES MADE USING RECYCLED COTTON FROM TEXTILES COLLECTED FROM ITS GARMENT COLLECTING INITIATIVE.

The pieces for men, women, and kids are the latest steps toward the brand's goal of creating a closed loop for fashion, and are available in all stores worldwide, as well as online.



The pieces were presented at the H&M Philippines showroom during the brand's preview of their Denim Re-born Collection. Items on display included jackets, jeans, and jumpsuits that are made from 20 percent recycled cotton.

Since 2013, H&M customers worldwide have been able to bring unwanted clothes from any brand into its stores as part of its Garment Collecting Initiative. So far, over 14,000 tons have been collected globally.

Today, H&M is able to use 20 percent recycled cotton from collected clothes and is investing in new technology to increase this share without losing quality.





ONE BIKE FOR A MULTITUDE OF ADVENTURES MADE FROM WAR, MADE TO LAST.

URAL



Gear-up 2WD

The Gear-up 2013 has a sturdy construction and infused with 2WD specification. Having that military bike background, this motorcycle with its sidecar configuration is also best suited for camping trips and off road adventures. It is purposely built to haul a rig (sidecar).

Also equipped with:

- Leading link front suspension
- Mechanical steering damper
- Propeller drive



CHANGING YOUR MOTORCYCLE LIFESTYLE

Ropali Classics provides an overall classic vibe. It is not just about exotic motorcycles, but the vintage look of the store that makes it a head turner. Ropali Classics carries a wide range of high-end motorcycle brands such as Kymco, Royal Enfield, KTM, and CPI. It also showcases Ural Motorcycles, the Russian-made motorcycle uniquely made with a sidecar, where Ropali serves as its exclusive distributor here in the Philippines. Projecting itself as a one-stop shop, Ropali Classics also has local and imported accessories and parts for leisure and lifestyle motorcycles. In-store is a well equipped service center with distinguished mechanics that will make sure your beloved motorcycles will be well taken care of.

STORE FEATURES

- Cafe serves coffee and sandwiches
- Bar opens every Thursday from 6PM to 12MN, "Tambay Thursday"
- Offers Apparels, Helmets, Riding Gears and Bike Accessories

SERVICE CENTER OFFERS

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S6 edge+



A NIGHT OF FASHION AND INSPIRATION

S CARPET launch of the Samsung Galaxy Note5, S6 edge+



USHERING IN THE LAUNCH OF SAMSUNG'S LATEST FLAGSHIP PHABLET DEVICES—THE GALAXY NOTE5 AND GALAXY S6 EDGE+—SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS PHILIPPINES HELD THE S CARPET: FASHION & INSPIRATION VIP EVENT AT THE SMX AT SM AURA PREMIER LAST SEPTEMBER.

The highlights of the evening were the Samsung x FDCP (Fashion and Design Council of the Philippines) fashion show showcasing stunning all-Filipino designer pieces, and the awarding of the first-ever Samsung Noteworthy & Edge Maker awards, featuring Philippines' fashion and art's corps d'elite.

The S CARPET event featured an interactive digital fashion show that illustrated the marriage of style and technology. Acclaimed designers such as JC Buendia, Frederick Peralta, and Randy Ortiz, among others, showcased their artistry and creativity with their beautiful pieces.

Setting the standard for class, sophistication, and high fashion, Philippine Prince of Fashion Inno Sotto brought home the first-ever Samsung Noteworthy award.

Honored for being catalysts of this generation were Edge Maker awardees Bianca Gonzalez-Intal, Liz Uy, Xander Angeles, Iza Calzado, and Ingrid Chua-Go.



DID YOU KNOW?

GOOGLE HAS BEEN NICKNAMING VERSIONS OF ANDROID AFTER DESSERTS, BUT THIS WASN'T ALWAYS THE CASE.

Android 1.0 was sometimes called "Alpha" or "Astro Boy" while Android 1.1 was known internally as "Petit Four," which is a small French appetizer. However, the name was not used officially. Android 1.5 "Cupcake" was the first version to have an official dessert nickname.



Journal



VAL J. GONZALES

This mobile life we have

Living the lifestyle now, without having to become rich and famous first



"IT HAS BECOME APPALLINGLY OBVIOUS THAT OUR TECHNOLOGY HAS EXCEEDED OUR HUMANITY."

According to a press release in May 2014 by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), there are 3.6 billion mobile-cellular subscriptions in the Asia-Pacific region. The number of internet users around the world grew to 3.2 billion last year, with 45 percent coming from the Asia-Pacific. That's almost half of the world's population getting connected to the internet. At the end of 2014, it was estimated that 3 out of 4 users have used mobile-broadband to access the internet.

In the Philippines alone, mobile subscriptions grow by almost 10 percent each year. According to a 2014 report by Peter Evans, a senior researcher of Budde (budde.com.au), mobile penetration in the country has reached 105 percent.

This is in stark contrast to broadband connectivity where only 7 percent of the Filipino population have access. Statistics also show that slowly, Filipinos are getting untethered from their desktop PCs and landlines, and embracing the pop and easy culture of tablets.

Welcome to the age of mobility.

WHAT IS MOBILITY?

Mobility has different meanings in different fields. In anthropology, there is "geographic mobility," a measure of how people relocate to certain areas over time. How many people leave their provinces to move to the dirty and gray pastures of Metro Manila each year? How many were forced to go back? How many actually did?

In sociology, "economic mobility" is the measure of how people move up and down between the perceived social strata. Income and wealth are commonly used to determine social mobility.

The age of computers introduced the term "computing mobility." Instead of confining a programmer in one big room where one big supercomputer hums, engineers took up the challenge to free us from the ties that bind us to our machines.

MOBILITY BRINGS OUT THE HUMANS IN US

While technology and devices can be used as indicators of progress, mobility can determine progress.

President Benigno Aquino III drew flak when he said that the worsening traffic in the congested metro was a sign of progress. To many, the rapid increase in the number of cars plying the streets may indicate economic progress, but what's the point of owning a car when it is rendered useless by horrible traffic jams? EDSA mobility is an issue that has deeply affected many Metro Manila dwellers.

Mobility is one of the reasons app designers are doing away with traditional interfaces used in desktop applications. Compare the difference between app functionality when we were still tied to our laptops with an Ethernet cable plugged into a network hub and how apps on your Android or iOS device behave now.

Modern apps are designed to cater to a mobile lifestyle. For app studios to get their share of the money market, they need to tap into the innovation market. Everybody wants to produce an app humans will find necessary.

THE MOBILE LIFESTYLE

Each day, before we leave the house for work, we check traffic updates. If the car is "coded," we try to hail a cab via GrabTaxi. If choosy drivers decline our meager tips, we opt for Uber despite the "slight" price surge.

Once we're on our way, we fidget with our phones to constantly check Waze for a better route from Quezon City to Makati. If stuck in traffic, we whip out laptops—considered big and bulky now—or the sleeker tablets, and try to continue working on something previously saved in Google Drive.

In the office, we trust Keeper to give us the right password and account combinations to different systems. This is because our human brain just cannot keep track of those crazy, ultra-secure passwords that our IT managers want us to remember.

In the gym, Fitbit has knocked G-Shocks and Timexes out of the ring, because they can't tell heart rate, count calories, track steps, and distance traveled, while giving us the correct time. In fact, time has become a secondary function.

THE DARK SIDE OF MOBILITY

I ran a survey over lunch with my co-workers (95 percent Gen-X), and they say here are the top reasons people should not be so immersed in the mobile lifestyle:

- It's bad for kids because they don't know how to interact socially anymore.
- It could become uncontrollable and could mean losing your better judgment skills. The app decides where you eat!
- It could lead to a social divide because people with mobile lifestyles tend to look down upon the older generation. Deep.
- It could hasten the end of the world, with the advent of that mythical chip that will soon be embedded in your wrists.

Life was indeed simpler when raspberry pies solely existed for eating, and not hacking. But the world was different then, it was a different time.



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TANGLE-FREE TRANSFER

MOVE DATA FROM PHONE TO PHONE

Words **JOHN SOSMEÑA**

Android to iOS

So you are ready to jump on the Apple train. Leaving the Android world behind doesn't mean your files can't go with you. Backing up your contacts and stored files to the cloud, especially on your Google account, is a no brainer. But should you require some offline migration, here's one way you can go about it.

On Android

- 1 Go to your Contacts' menu button and tap Import/Export. A VCF file will be saved on your mobile device.
- 2 Connect your Android phone to your PC and set it to Disk Drive Mode.
- 3 Make a folder on your computer for all the files from your Android device.

- 4 Copy the VCF file (this contains the contacts you exported) in the folder you created on your PC.
- 5 Copy image, video, and sound files (which are readable on iOS) from your Android device to the folder on your computer.

On iOS

- 1 For photos and videos, your iOS device requires the usual sync on iTunes, provided that you direct it to the location of the folder you saved your Android files in.
- 2 For contacts, you may opt to either import them by adding your Google account on the iOS device and waiting for it to sync the contacts while you're connected to the internet, or you can choose to email the VCF file you exported to yourself, open using your iOS gadget, and click on the attachment so that it prompts you for the contacts transfer.

SMS MIGRATION

Besides Apple's built-in SMS recovery and backup system, there's not much to go around except for third-party applications if you want your messages backed up and transferred.

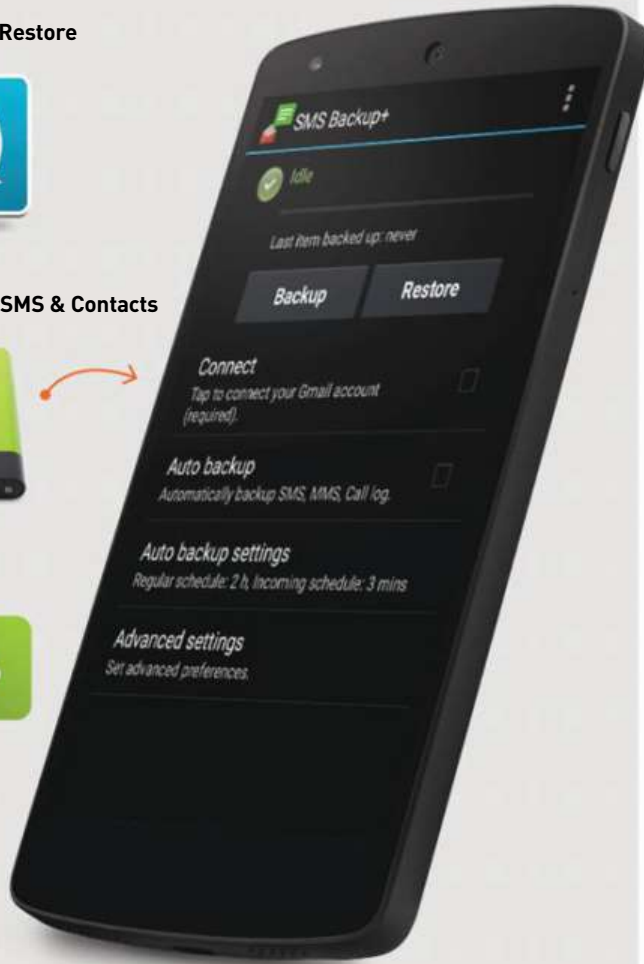
SMS Backup & Restore



Super Backup: SMS & Contacts



SMS Backup+



iOS to Android

Fortunately, if you plan to take a swing at the more open software, switching your stuff from iOS to Android isn't actually too hard. In fact, the fancy company already does the job for you. All you need is the right cheat code.

On iOS

- 1 Make sure your contacts are synced with your email account. In this case, having a Google account would prove to be the most efficient way since Android phones ask you to log in to your Google account at setup.
- 2 For photos and videos from the Camera Roll, be sure to export them to a folder on your computer. For other files, you'll have to remember where they are saved on the computer that your iOS device is synced with.
- 3 Click and drag your song selections from iTunes to your computer.

On Android

- 1 When connected to the internet, log in your Google account when it prompts you and let your contacts sync automatically.
- 2 Find the folders on your computer where you saved your iOS photos and videos, and copy them to your connected Android smartphone. Make sure the latter is on USB mode.
- 3 Copy the "Music" folder where your iOS tunes are to either your phone's internal memory or microSD storage.

Android to Android

Migrating files from one Android device to another is just like transferring files via USB because Android smartphones can function as a storage device when connected to a computer.

You can have both devices connected to one computer and transfer directly or, if you only have one USB port on your computer, move the files to it then remove the old Android device and connect the new one so that you can transfer the same files to the latter.

Old Android

- 1 Connect the device to your computer and open the internal storage.
- 2 You'll find that there are a lot of folders inside. It's better if you save them on your computer without taking out the subfolders (the ones that carry a specific type of file named "Music", "DCIM", etc.).
- 3 As for your contacts, calendar entries, and email messages, just make sure these are synced and updated to your Google account.

New Android

- 1 Connect the Android device to your computer and open the internal storage.
- 2 Transfer the files from your computer to the Android device. Make sure that you do so in the subfolders with the same names.
- 3 Sync the same Google account on the device to get your contacts, calendar entries, and email messages.

iOS to iOS

For existing iOS users who just got the fresh upgrade, Apple already has its built-in backup system using your Apple ID and Cloud storage. Here's what you need to do:

Old iOS

- 1 Go to your Settings > iCloud > Storage & Backup.
- 2 Turn your iCloud Backup ON and make sure your Wi-Fi is working.
- 3 Tap on "Back Up Now" and wait for it to finish.
- 4 You can also opt to back up your iOS device using iTunes. Simply tick the "Automatically Back Up" on your iTunes app on your computer and once you plug your new device on your computer. Messages are saved automatically, provided that you use an iOS computer. iMessage will automatically back up your SMS on your logged in Apple ID for both regular SMS the ones sent over the internet.

New iOS

- 1 Get through with the usual setup as you would after getting a new iOS device or one that's been factory reset.
- 2 Go to the device's settings, back to iCloud Backup, and tap Restore from iCloud Backup. Enter your Apple ID credentials, and wait for it to finish.
- 3 If you chose the iTunes route, keep your iTunes running and choose "Restore from iTunes Backup" when the device prompts you.
- 4 Use the same Apple ID to get your SMS backup.

CREATE GALLERY-WORTHY PHOTOS WITH VSCO

Words **PAT CALICA**
Photos **MELAI BALITAAN**



Platforms: Android, iOS

You, like everyone else, are probably using your smartphone's camera to take photos—whether to capture life's greatest moments or compose artistic shots for your social media feed. Thanks to various imaging apps and social media sites' in-app tools and filters, improving your bland shots is possible with just a few swipes and taps.

One of the most feature-packed photo apps out there is VSCO Cam. While that may be a biased claim from a self-confessed VSCOphile, the 58,180,950 and 91,147,899

Instagram posts with the #vsco and #vscocam hashtags, respectively, speak for this popular imaging tool.

Here's a quick guide on how to use the VSCO app to turn picture-perfect scenes in front of you into well-composed photos worthy to be uploaded and shared on the Web.

Shot and post-processed using VSCO Cam

SNAP, SNAP, SNAP!

The VSCO app comes with its own camera function that you can use in place of your device's default camera app. But don't take pictures just for the sake of it.

Search. Keep your eyes open for an interesting subject. Find the best perspectives and angles for your shot.

Set. There's a plethora of shooting options and camera controls to choose from within the app. Press the Settings icon on the upper left of the screen and play with any of these:

Big Button – When activated, the entire image screen becomes a button for taking an image.

Flash – There are four options to control it—Flash Off, Flash Auto, Flash On, and Flash Torch.

Grid – To help you better compose your photos, you can select among Grid Thirds, Square Grid, and Grid Off. Remember that the grid merely guides your image composition; it doesn't crop the photos.

Low-light – This function utilizes the low-light sensitivity feature of your phone when there's not enough light in the environment.

White Balance Lock – When enabled, this feature locks the current white balance of the subject in frame.

Focus & Exposure – Make sure that the Big Button function is disabled before using this feature. Touch the part of the photo that you want the Focus and Exposure to calculate. The photo will then adjust to the values at that specific point.

Tap the screen using two fingers and the Focus and Exposure will each get a control point. Now you can adjust them separately by dragging the points to any part of the screen.

Another cool thing you can do is to lock the Focus and Exposure by double-tapping the control points. By doing this, the Focus or the Exposure remains the same no matter where you point the camera.

Shoot. Capture your photo by pressing the gray bar with the camera icon. Or if the Big Button function is on, just press anywhere on the screen. Don't hesitate or the moment may pass!

When in **preview mode**, click the **histogram icon at the top to see the details of the image such as location, presets applied, and date and time information.**

**MORE FEATURES****Grid**

Create a Grid account, share your photos to the whole VSCO community, and see the beautiful creations of other VSCO users.

**Journals**

Read blog entries from the best mobile photographers who use VSCO. Learn their creative process and their latest projects.

**Shop**

Watch for new presets you can download to further enhance your gallery.

EDIT, GET IT?

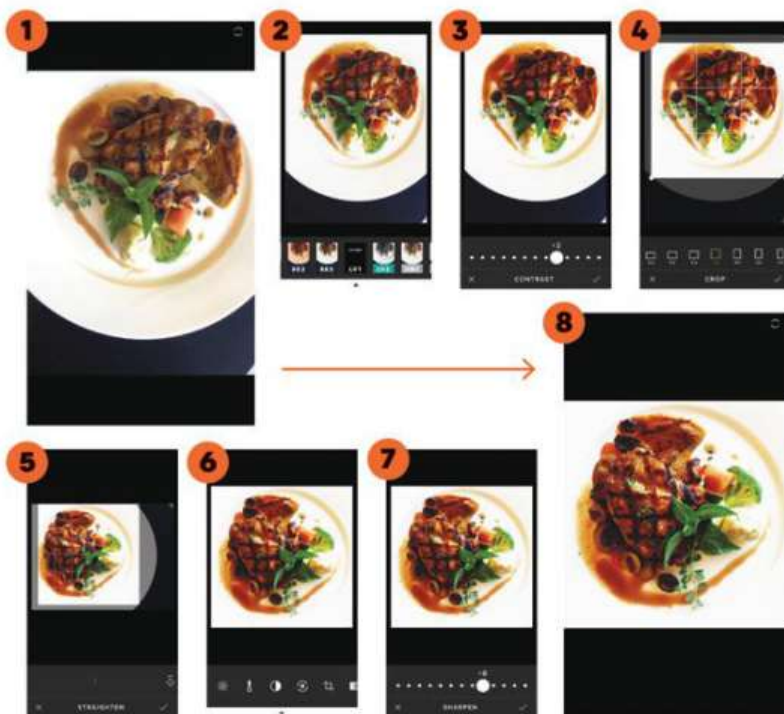
Retouching your images allows you to add more drama to them and build a unified story in your gallery. Aside from being a great replacement camera app, VSCO is also a powerful photo editor with its one-tap image retouching.

To edit a photo, select a thumbnail or double tap one to preview the entire image. Click the edit button to start.

There are two sets of editing functions in the VSCO app—the **basic editing tools** (to crop, rotate, and adjust exposure, contrast, saturation, temperature, etc.) and the **Presets**, which you can download from the VSCO shop (some are for free while others require you to pay a fee). Open the pull up tab by pressing the arrow at the button to see these controls.

Then follow these steps:

- 1 Select a Preset
- 2 Adjust intensity of the preset by moving the slider left or right
- 3 Save by selecting the check mark
- 4 Open the pull up tab
- 5 Select the set of basic editing tools
- 6 Select which tool you want to adjust
- 7 Move the slider left or right
- 8 Save by selecting the check mark



The steps above don't need to be done chronologically. You can do it the other way by adjusting the image using the basic editing tools first before you apply a Preset. Or you can go to and from adjusting the Preset and the basic tools until you get the desired effect.

Some helpful features in editing:

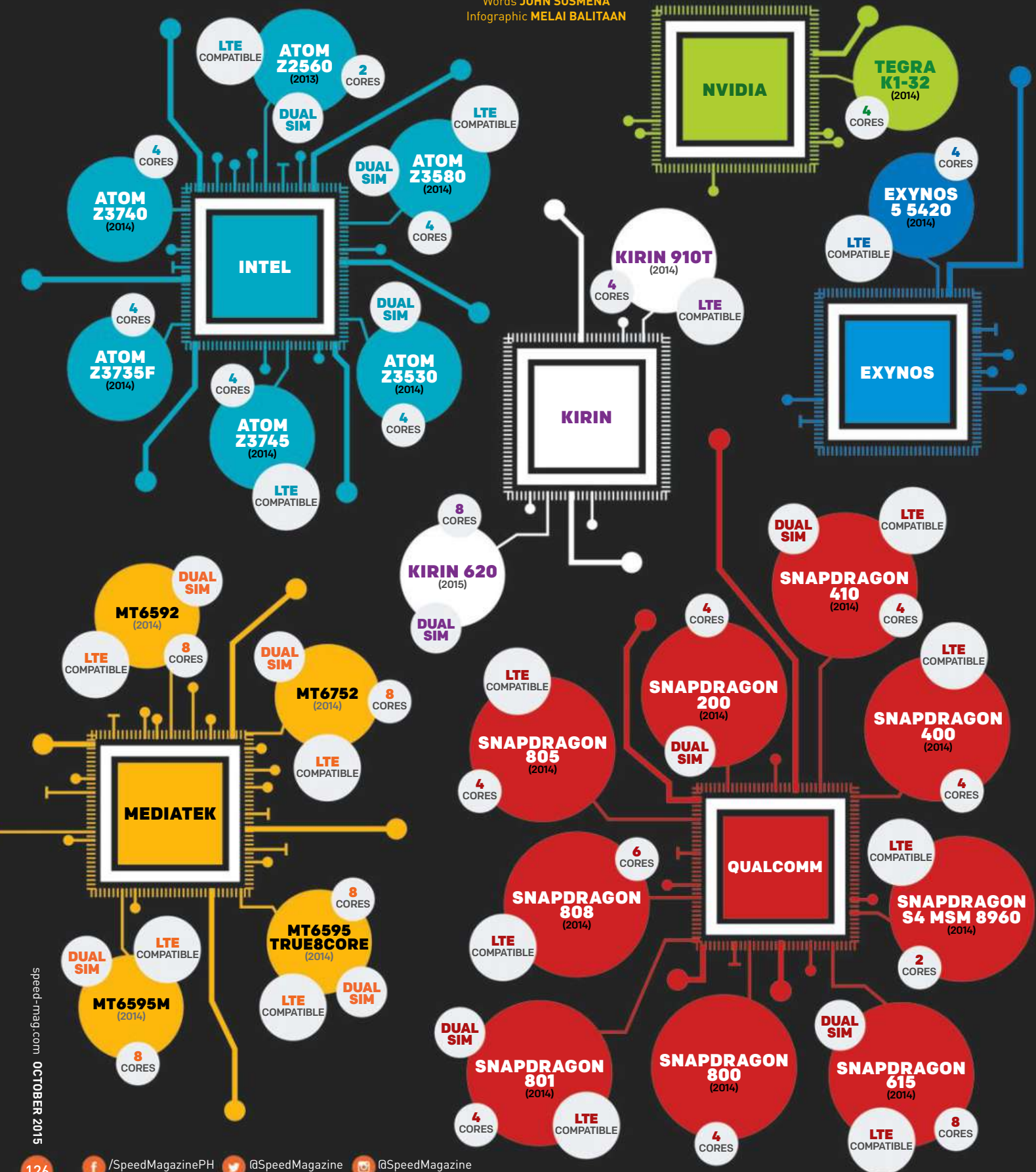
- Press and hold on the image and see its original, unedited version to compare.
- A Copy and Paste function lets you apply the settings and presets of one image to others.
- The Reset button removes all the editing implemented while the Undo button deletes only the most recent one

Those are just the basics. Join the VSCO's creative grid and explore more of the app as you go along.

BASIC GUIDE TO MOBILE PROCESSORS

Know what your mobile device's processor is capable of in this cute and informative visual aid.

Words **JOHN SOSMEÑA**
Infographic **MELAI BALITAAN**



THE MOBILE OFFICE

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Words **PAT CALICA**
Infographic **MELAI BALITAAN**

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A lightweight, powerful one would be good.

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STORAGE SOLUTIONS

Q

Hello! I used to have an external hard drive and I accidentally dropped it (I think I got it totaled). With

many brands and features, can you help me choose one so that I can buy [a replacement] soon? I use [my external hard drive] primarily for storing my favorite movies, songs, and photos of my family and as backup for files in my laptop. I would really appreciate your recommendation. Thanks in advance.

Jean Eriz Lee

A

Dear Jean,

Sorry to hear about the death of your external hard drive. We sincerely hope you have a backup of your backup!

Now when it comes to external hard drives, you need to consider the following: capacity, speed, compatibility, and security. Also, do you want to be able to transport your external storage or do you plan to keep it in one place?

Once you've determined what'll work for your needs, it will be easier to look for the perfect product for you.

We suggest you look at the offerings from WD, Seagate, and LaCie. WD offers good and reliable storage options. The devices in their My Passport series are fast, secure, portable, and stylish to boot. Seagate and LaCie also have years' worth of experience in making excellent storage devices. LaCie even has an all-terrain portable drive called the LaCie Rugged Thunderbolt, which can keep your data safe from dust, water, and shocks.

Good luck with your next purchase, Jean! In the meantime, enjoy this pair of **Jaybird X2 Wireless Buds** worth P8,950 that we're gifting you with. Like the LaCie hard drive we mentioned above, these earbuds are durable and sweat-resistant, on top of being one of the better-sounding Bluetooth earbuds in the market right now.



LOCK DOWN

Dear Speed,

My 5-year-old son loves borrowing my iPad. I let him play with it for 30 minutes a day and that's it. However, I'm quite worried about him accidentally making purchases on the App Store (he's a tap-pinch-swipe master!) or accessing apps he shouldn't be tinkering with. Is there a way I can lock down my iPad or at least put some restrictions? Thanks!

M.S. Santillan



Kids these days take to gadgets like duck to water, huh? But don't fret. There are some handy tools that you can use to lock your iPad.

To lock your device for certain apps, simply go to **Settings > General > Accessibility**. Enable Guided Access and enter a passcode. Open the app you want to lock, triple-click the Home button very quickly, and you should see the Guided Access screen. Trace around the area that you want to disable. You can disable the motion, hardware buttons, or touch system in the specific area. Click on Start when you're ready to enter Guided Access mode.

To exit Guided Access mode, triple-click the Home button in quick succession and enter your passcode when prompted.

On the other hand, you can use Restrictions to permanently lock certain apps from your kids. You can disable in-app buying, new apps installation, etc.

To do this, go to **Settings > General > Restrictions**. Enable and set up a passcode. Select the apps you want to add restrictions to from the list.

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HP UFD/OTG



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Billboard



CALTEx AWARDS LEARNING MATERIALS TO METRO MANILA SCHOOLS

Chevron Philippines, Inc. (CPI), marketer of Caltex fuels and lubricants, recently awarded brand new learning equipment to the winning schools of the Caltex Fuel Your School (FYS) program.

During the fuel up drive and social media campaign from June 15 to July 15, 2015, Chevron was able to reach their target of P5-million donation fund, which was used for the 28 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) classroom proposals submitted to the FYS website.

Aside from posting the projects on the Fuel Your School website, Caltex also ran a campaign on Facebook, wherein schools were to devise gimmicks and strategies to rack up votes. Caloocan National Science and Technology High School, Culiati High School, and Pasay City East High School each received a new laptop as a bonus prize in addition to their STEM materials.



THE SAK BRAND GROUP OPENS FIRST POP-UP STORE

THE SAK BRAND GROUP RECENTLY ANNOUNCED ITS EXCLUSIVITY WITH THE PRIMER GROUP OF COMPANIES AND OPENED ITS FIRST EVER POP-UP STORE IN GLORIETTA 2 WITH A DISPLAY OF THEIR NEWEST COLLECTION FOR FALL 2015.

Inspired by art, music, and nature, Sakroots carries a range of colorful and unique fashion accessories featuring original patterns and designs that reflect the brand's heritage and laidback aesthetic.

On the other hand, The Sak boasts of an extensive line of textured leather bags that are teeming with life and beauty.

The Sak Brand Group's pop-up store will feature a full collection from The Sak, as well as bags, accessories, and jewelry by The Sak. The pop-up store will be available until the end of October.

HONDA SMART TECH RAISES THE BAR IN SCOOTER MARKET

Honda, the world's largest motorcycle manufacturer, has ushered an innovative and groundbreaking technology in motorcycle development in the Philippines and the rest of the world with its exclusive and pioneering Honda Smart Technology.

Honda Philippines first adopted the exclusive Honda Smart Technology when it launched the Honda Click125i premium scooter in February this year and replicated the same on its New Generation BeAT-Fi eSP Series scooter rolled out last May.

The technology is a collection of technical and innovative features, including PGM-FI liquid-cooled engine, electronic generating system, idling stop system, and combined brake system. These features help enhance the safety of riders, maintain great road performance, ensure better utility, improve security, and contribute to fuel efficiency of Honda's latest scooter offerings.



Shuffle data fast between devices with PhotoFast

Taiwanese company PhotoFast has brought its small, fast, and capable i-FlashDrive HD devices to the Philippine market.

Want to expand your iOS device's memory? Check out the i-FlashDrive HD, which is compatible with iPhones and other devices with Lightning adapters, as well as 30-pin connectors. Back up, restore, and manage your photos and videos from the Camera Roll with the help of the i-FlashDrive ONE app.

Other products introduced to the local market include MemoriesCable (charger and expandable storage device in one), iFlashDrive MAX U3 USB 3.0, i-FlashDrive EVO, EVO Plus cross-platform drive, and CR 8700 Memory Expansion Combo Kit, which provides two interfaces to access microSD card memory (USB 2.0 or microSD to SD adapters).



Power Mac Center opens biggest Apple service center

Apple users in the north area of Metro Manila will now have easier access to repair and maintenance services with the opening of Power Mac Center's 8th and biggest Apple Authorized Service Provider (AASP) to date.

The 173.64 sqm service center at the Annex of SM City North EDSA is equipped to accommodate more Apple repairs and provide better service offerings to its customers, with Apple Certified Technicians ready to offer fast, reliable, and efficient repairs.

PACSPORTS, TAYLORMADE DRIVE GOLF TO NEW HEIGHTS

Guests from various golf communities recently flocked to the Army Golf Club Driving Range to see and experience the best metal woods and irons TaylorMade has to offer.

Pacsports, the exclusive distributor of TaylorMade-adidas Golf in the country, held the product experience event to promote the TaylorMade R15, AeroBurner, and RSi.

Demos were conducted to highlight the technologies of the products. Analysis of guests' ball flight, swing speed, smash, etc., were done with the aid of launch monitors. TaylorMade visors, balls, bags, and R15 drivers were also raffled off to the participants.

TaylorMade's R15, AeroBurner and RSi Irons are exclusively available in Pacsports Stores in La Paz Makati, Greenbelt 5, Manila Golf Club, Alabang Golf and Country Club, City Golf Driving Range, Greenhills, Valley Golf and Country Club, Tagaytay Midlands, Canlubang Golf Club, Festival Mall, Sun Valley Golf and Country Club, and Riviera Golf Club.



PETRON GIVES VALUE CARD HOLDERS MORE REASONS TO SMILE

Petron Value Card holders have more reasons to smile with Petron's special bonus points. Apart from the regular one value point per P250 fuel spend, frequent visits to Petron stations allow you to earn points faster.

On every fifth visit-day, your total accumulated purchases give you bonus points as follows: 25 bonus points for accumulated purchases of P5,000 and above; 20 points for P4,000 to P4,999; 15 points for P3,000 to P3,999; 10 points for P2,000 to P2,999; 5 points for P1,000 to P1,999; and 3 points for P500 to P999.

You can also earn extra points on your birthday when you fuel up within five days of your birthday: 30 points for purchases of P1,000 and above; 15 points for P500 to P999; and 5 points for P100 to P499. Be sure to register your Petron Value Card to start earning special bonus points.

SanDisk outs new high-speed SSDs

SANDISK UPGRADES ITS ARSENAL OF SOLID STATE DRIVES (SSDs) WITH THE RELEASE OF NEW HIGH-SPEED AND PORTABLE MODELS, AS WELL AS ENTRY-LEVEL INTERNAL SSD PRODUCTS.



The Extreme 900 Portable SSD features a transfer speed of 850MB/s. Made out of compact, durable aluminum case, the Extreme 900 is available in 480GB (P29,000), 960GB (P43,500), and 1.92TB (P72,500) variants. The smaller SanDisk Extreme 500 Portable SSD is temperature- and impact-resistant and boasts 4x faster transfer speeds compared to a hard drive. It is available in 120GB (P7,250) and 240GB (P10,850) variants.

SanDisk also announced that it will release four additional SSDs designed for PC, laptop, and tablet users in the country: the SSD Plus, Ultra II SSD, Ultra mSATA SSD, and Extreme Pro SSD.

Billboard



SMART LAUNCHES BATIBOT APP FOR KINDER

Parents and teachers who grew up with the TV show *Batibot* can now let their children and students enjoy the children's educational show through a mobile phone application.

The *Batibot* Android app launched by Smart Communications was designed specifically for kids in kindergarten up to Grade 3. It was developed in collaboration with the Community of Learners Foundation (COLF) and startup partner OrangeFix. The *Batibot* app is the first learning app in Filipino that is aligned with the national kindergarten curriculum of the Department of Education.

The app comes with fun-filled games and interactive features to help children in their formative years develop essential thinking skills. It also supports early literacy by nurturing children's love for storytelling.

"By digitizing *Batibot*, Smart is addressing the need of children for localized educational content. We also hope to make learning a shared experience between the parents and teachers, who grew up with the *Batibot* TV show, and their kids and students, who can now enjoy the *Batibot* experience on mobile devices," said Smart public affairs head Mon Isberto.



Pay your LRT, MRT fare with GCash beep Mastercard

Commuters who take the Light Rail Transit (LRT) and Metro Rail Transit (MRT) daily can now enjoy the combined convenience of paying for their train fares and engaging in cashless shopping and bills payments with the new Globe GCash beep Mastercard.

GCash beep Mastercard is the first value-added card to be beep ready, allowing cardholders to load and pay for their MRT and LRT trips easily. beep is the authorized electronic payment under the unified LRT/MRT ticket system.

This reloadable contactless tap-and-go card is accepted as a payment option in popular online shopping sites and in establishments worldwide that recognize the Mastercard brand.

Because it has a GCash account, the beep card can be also used to buy prepaid Globe/TM phone load, send money to any Globe/TM user for free, receive remittance, and withdraw cash from any automated teller machine.

FIND THE RIGHT DOCTOR WITH PRACTO

FILIPINOS CAN NOW HAVE ACCESS TO SIMPLIFIED HEALTHCARE AS PRACTO, ASIA'S LARGEST HEALTHCARE PLATFORM, IS NOW AVAILABLE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

With Practo Search, you can go through a database of 11,000 doctors across all 17 cities in the Greater Manila area. Practo verifies and lists

doctors for free and does not charge consumers or doctors to find, book, or receive appointments. You can search using doctor's names, specialization, and even symptoms.

Practo aims to list all healthcare professionals in the Philippines.

Practo also launched Practo Ray, a cloud-based practice management solution for doctors and clinics. Practo Ray helps simplify scheduling, billing, and inventory management for doctors. It also helps create digital health care records and prescriptions so consumers always have their healthcare history available for them right inside the app. Practo Ray is available as an annual subscription starting at P2,200 a month.



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Makati
acer.com.ph

Arena

Available at Shangri-La Plaza, SM North EDSA,
and UP Town Center

Apple

Available at authorized resellers nationwide
apple.com

ASUS

ASUS Technology Philippines, Inc.
(02) 634-0309
4/F Hanston Bldg., Ortigas Center, Pasig
ph.asus.com

Belkin

Available at lazada.com.ph

Black & Decker

Black & Decker Asia Pacific Pte. Ltd.
(02) 533-9694
VSK Corporate Circle, Acacia Lane cor. Shaw Blvd.,
Mandaluyong
blackanddecker.com

Boompods

Available at Power Mac Center stores, Lazada,
and Center of Gravity
boompods.com

Braven

Available in Astrovision, Astroplus, Beyond the Box,
Digital Hub, Digital Walker, iCenter, iStudio, and
PowerHub
braven.com

Cherry Mobile

Cosmic Technologies, Inc.
(02) 353-0170 to 72
Unit 1002 Pearl of the Orient Tower, 1240 Roxas Blvd.,
Ermita, Manila
cherrymobile.com.ph

Chrysler

Auto Nation Group, Inc.
1008 EDSA Greenhills, San Juan
chrysler.com.ph

Davone

davoneaudio.com

Ford

Ford Philippines
(02) 744-2222
29 EDSA, San Juan
ford.com.ph

Fujifilm

Fujifilm Philippines, Inc.
30/F Joy Nostalg Center, ADB Ave., Ortigas Center,
Pasig

H&M

Available at H&M stores in Robinsons Magnolia,
SM North The Block, SM Makati, and SM Megamall
hm.com/ph

Haier

haier.net

HNF Heisenberg

hnf-heisenberg.com

Leica

LG/F Greenbelt 5, Makati
leica-camera.com

Lenovo

Lenovo (Philippines), Ltd.
(02) 558-5700
10/F 11th Corporate Center, 11th Ave. cor. Triangle Dr.,
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig
lenovo.com/ph

Lexus

Lexus Manila, Inc.
(02) 856-5050
3402 8th Ave. cor. 34th St., North Bonifacio Global City,
Taguig
lexus.com.ph

LG

LG Electronics Philippines, Inc.
(02) 902-5544
15/F Legaspi St., Maybunga, Pasig
lg.com/ph

Lomography

Available at TeamManila stores in Powerplant Mall,
TriNoma, SM Mall of Asia, SM North EDSA,
Market! Market!, SM Aura, SM Manila,
SM San Lazaro, Marquee Mall, Harbor Point,
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shop.lomography.com

Mazda

Berjaya Auto Philippines, Inc.
(02) 551-8000
9/F Rufino Bldg., 6784 Ayala Ave. cor. V.A. Rufino St.,
Legazpi Village, Makati
mazda.com.ph

Nest

nest.com

Obi Worldphone

obiworldphone.com

Olympus

olympus-global.com

O'Neill

Primer Group of Companies
Primer Star Center, 2282 Leon Guinto St., Malate,
Manila
oneill.com

OPPO

oppo.com.ph

Perry Ellis

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SM Mall of Asia, SM Megamall, SM The Block,
and SM Store Makati
perryellis.com

Pioneer

Zamony Venture Corporation
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708 Apelo Cruz St. Malibay, Pasay
pioneer.ph

uNu

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Samsung

Available at all Samsung stores and authorized
retailers
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Sony

Sony Philippines
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11/F Marajo Tower, 312 26th St., West cor. 4th Ave.,
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig
sony.com.ph

Startrac

Fitness Intelligence Trends, Inc.
(02) 651-7777 loc. 867 to 868
fitinc.com.ph
startrac.com

Starmobile

Star Telecom Alliance Resources, Inc.
(02) 333-7827
Star Kapitolyo Building, 70 San Rafael St., Pasig
starmobile.com.ph

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Timberland

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Pueblo Verde-Cebu, SM Makati, SM North EDSA,
Robinsons Place Ermita, and SM Mall of Asia

Victorinox

Available at Swiss Army boutiques at SM Megamall
and Century City Mall, Lucerne, Chronos,
L Timestudio, Swiss Gear, and Wrist_Pod
victorinox.com

Volkswagen

volkswagen.com.ph

Xiaomi

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Y4iT the 13TH : ARE YOU READY?



With the theme, "Y4iT the 13th: Are You Ready?" the Youth Congress on Information Technology, which began on Sept. 9 at the SMX Convention Center in Pasay City, concluded with discussions that equipped the delegates to be prepared for the industry's challenges.

On Sept. 11, Sen. Bam Aquino graced the congress' final day, delivering a keynote speech that focused on the importance of Internet infrastructure in the Philippines. Citing the ongoing Internet hearings in the senate, he stressed, "A good internet infrastructure in a developing country like ours leads to economic development." He also encouraged the youth to utilize social media to promote good governance.

Y4iT also launched its first discussion forum, where experts in the field of UX, web, and mobile tackled the latest technologies, advantages, and disadvantages in using the web or mobile platform in software development. This helped raise key differences between the two, citing factors like offline capability and data use, which is vital in deciding which platform to prefer when developing an application.

Moreover, the attendees of the three-day event gained added knowledge and inspiration from talks on human mobility by ACM Distinguished Speaker Dr. Silvia Giordano; Internet issues like cyber security, data privacy, and stability; as well as topics about Internet of Things, game design, user experience, and entrepreneurship, among others.

Y4iT, organized by the UP System IT Foundation, is at the forefront of information technology gathering events in the country, attended by thousands of IT students, professionals, and enthusiasts nationwide.



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- 1.6GHz 64-bit Intel Atom Z2560
- 8MP rear, 2MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



ASUS Zenfone 2 (ZE551ML)
P9,995

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.8GHz 64-bit Intel Atom Z3580
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
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- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



ASUS Zenfone 2 Laser ZE500KL
P7,695

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 410 MSM8916
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
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- 8/16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



ASUS Zenfone 2 Laser ZE550KL
P8,695

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.2GHz octa-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 615 MSM8939
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
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- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



ASUS Zenfone Go P5,995

- Android 5.1 Lollipop
- 1.3GHz quad-core MediaTek MT6580
- 8MP rear, 2MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- dual SIM



ASUS ZenPad 7.0 (Z370CG)
P7,995

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.2GHz quad-core Intel Atom x3-C3230
- 8MP rear, 2MP front
- 7" 1280 x 800
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM



ASUS ZenPad C 7.0 (Z170CG)
P5,995

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.2GHz quad-core Intel Atom x3-C3230
- 2MP rear, VGA front
- 7" 1024 x 600
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM



Cherry Mobile One P3,999

- Android 5.1 Lollipop
- 1.3GHz quad-core MediaTek MTK6582m
- 5MP rear, 2MP front
- 4.5" 854 x 480
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



Cherry Mobile One G1 P5,999

- Android 5.1 Lollipop
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 410 MSM8916
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Happy Mobile Aspire P6,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.7GHz octa-core ARM Cortex-A7
- 13MP rear, 8MP front
- 5.5" 720 x 1280
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- dual SIM



Happy Mobile Oracle P9,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.5GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6592
- 13MP rear, 8MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 8GB built-in; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



Huawei Honor 4C P6,390

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.2GHz octa-core HiSilicon Kirin 620
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 720 x 1280
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- dual SIM



Huawei Honor 4X P8,290

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.2GHz octa-core Cortex-A53
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.5" 720 x 1280
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- dual SIM
- LTE



Lenovo S60 P9,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.2GHz quad-core Cortex-A53
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 720 x 1280
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



LG Leon P5,990

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.2GHz quad-core Cortex-A53
- 8MP rear, VGA front
- 4.5" 480 x 854
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



LG Magna
P9,990

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A7- H502
- 8MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 720 x 1280
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Meizu M2 Note
P7,990

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.3GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6753
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.5" 1920 x 1080
- 16GB/32GB, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Microsoft Lumia 535
P5,990

- Windows Phone 8.1
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 200
- 5MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 540 x 960
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



Microsoft Lumia 540
P7,990

- Windows Phone 8.1
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 200
- 8MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 30GB OneDrive; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



MyPhone Infinity LTE
P8,299

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 410
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.5" 1280 x 720
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



MyPhone Rio 2
P5,499

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.3GHz quad-core MediaTek MT6582
- 8MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 720 x 1280
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



MyPhone Uno
P5,499

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.3GHz quad-core MediaTek 6582
- 5MP rear, 2MP front
- 4.5" 854 x 480
- 4GB, microSD; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



Oppo Mirror 5
P9,990

- Android 5.1 Lollipop
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm MSMS8916 Snapdragon 410
- 8MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 960 x 540
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Prestigio 5454 Duo
P8,799

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.2GHz quad-core Snapdragon 410
- 8MP rear, 2MP front
- 4.5" 960 x 540
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Prestigio 5550 Duo
P8,999

- P8,999
- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.3GHz quad-core MediaTek MTK6582
- 13MP rear, 2MP front
- 5.5" 1280 x 720
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



Prestigio 8500 Duo
P9,699

- Windows Phone 8.1
- 1.2GHz quad-core Cortex-A7
- 8MP rear, 2MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



Sony Xperia E4
P6,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A7
- 5MP rear, 2MP front
- 5" 960 x 540
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM



Starmobile UP Max
P7,490

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.3GHz quad-core ARM Cortex-A7
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



Xiaomi Redmi 2
P5,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.2GHz 64-bit quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 410
- 8MP rear, 2MP front
- 4.7" 1280 x 720
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Xiaomi Mi 4i
P9,799

- Android 5.0.2 Lollipop
- 1.7GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 & quad-core 1.0GHz Cortex-A53
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 1920 x 1080
- 16/32GB built-in; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



ASUS Zenfone 2 (ZE551ML)
P13,995 (32GB)
P14,995 (64GB)

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 2.3GHz 64-bit intel Atom Z3580
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.5" 1920 x 1080
- 32/64GB built-in, microSD;
- 4GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



ASUS Zenfone 2 Deluxe
P17,995

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 2.3GHz 64-bit Z3580 quad-core
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.5" 1920 x 1080
- 64/128GB built-in, microSD;
- 4GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



ASUS Zenfone selfie
P11,995

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.7GHz Qualcomm MSM8939 Snapdragon 615
- 13MP rear, 13MP front
- 5.5" 1920 x 1080
- 32GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



ASUS ZenPad S 8.0 (Z580CA)
P16,995

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 2.3GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3580
- 8MP rear, 5MP front
- 8" 2048 x 1536
- 64GB built-in, microSD; 4GB RAM



BlackBerry Leap
P13,490

- BlackBerry 10.3.1
- 1.5GHz dual-core Qualcomm MSM8960
- 8MP rear, 2MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE



Happy Mobile Prive
P11,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.7GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6592
- 13MP rear, 8MP front
- 5.5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



Lenovo P70
P11,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.7GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6752
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Lenovo S90
P13,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.2GHz 64-bit quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 410
- 13MP rear, 8MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 32GB built-in; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Huawei Honor 6+
P17,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.8GHz quad-core Cortex-A15 & 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A7
- 8MP rear, 8MP front
- 5.5" 1920 x 1080
- 32GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM

SPEED SAYS

The Honor 6+ promises to be a powerful mobile companion, boasting a large screen that delivers Full HD graphics, an octa-core processor, and LTE capability for your 4G needs.



Lenovo Vibe Shot
P17,999

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.7GHz octa-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 615
- 16MP rear, 8MP front
- 5" 1920 x 1080
- 32GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Lenovo Vibe X2
P18,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6595M True8Core
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 1920 x 1200
- 32GB built-in; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- optional dual SIM



Lenovo Yoga Tablet 2 8"
P13,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.33GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3745
- 8MP rear, 1.6MP front
- 8" 1920 x 1200
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM



Lenovo Yoga Tablet 2 10"
P19,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.86GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3745
- 8MP rear, 1.6MP front
- 10.1" 1920 x 1200
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE



LG G3 Beat
P13,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400
- 8MP rear, 1.3MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- LTE



LG G3 Stylus
P16,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A7 MediaTek MT6582
- 13MP rear, 1.3MP front
- 5.5" 960 x 540
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



Microsoft Lumia 640 XL
P11,990

- Windows Phone 8.1
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.7" 1280 x 720
- 8GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



MyPhone Infinity 2
P12,799

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.5GHz octa-core MediaTek 64-bit
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



OPPO R1x
P15,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.5GHz octa-core Snapdragon 615
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Prestigio 5508
P13,899

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.7GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6592
- 13MP rear, 2MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in; 1GB RAM
- dual SIM



Samsung Galaxy Tab A
P15,990

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.2GHz quad-core ARM Cortex-A53
- 5MP rear, 2MP front
- 8" 1024 x 768
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE



Starmobile ENGAGE 10 pro
P11,999

- Windows 8.1
- 1.8GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3735F Baytrail-T
- 5MP rear, 2MP front
- 10.1" 1280 x 800
- 32GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM



Starmobile Knight X
P15,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6595M
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.5" 1920 x 1080 IPS LCD
- 32GB built-in; 3GB RAM
- LTE
- dual SIM



Xiaomi Mi 3
P10,599

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 2.3GHz Qualcomm Snapdragon 800
- 13MP rear, 2MP front
- 5" 1920 x 1080
- 16GB/64GB; 2GB RAM



Xiaomi Mi Pad
P10,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.2GHz quad-core NVIDIA Tegra K1
- 8MP rear, 5MP front
- 7.9" 2048 x 1536
- 16GB, microSD; 2GB RAM



- Apple iPad Air 2**
Wi-Fi: P25,490 (16GB); P30,490 (64GB); P35,490 (128GB)
Wi-Fi+cellular: P31,990 (16GB); P36,990 (64GB); P41,990 (128GB)
- iOS 8
 - A8X chip with 64-bit architecture and M8 motion coprocessor
 - 8MP rear, 1.2MP front
 - 9.7" 2048 x 1536
 - 16/64/128GB; 2GB RAM
 - LTE



- Apple iPad mini 3**
Wi-Fi: P20,490 (16GB); P25,490 (64GB); P30,490 (128GB)
Wi-Fi + cellular: P26,990 (16GB); P31,990 (64GB); P36,990 (128GB)
- iOS 8
 - A7 chip with 64-bit architecture and M7 motion coprocessor
 - 5MP rear, 1.2MP front
 - 7.9" 2048 x 1536
 - 16/64/128GB; 1GB RAM
 - LTE



- Apple iPhone 6**
P35,990 (16GB) P41,990 (64GB) P47,990 (128GB)
- iOS 8
 - A8 chip with 64-bit architecture and M8 motion coprocessor
 - 8MP rear, 1.2MP front
 - 4.7" 1334 x 750
 - 16/64/128GB built-in; 1GB RAM
 - LTE



- Apple iPhone 6 Plus**
P41,990 (16GB) P47,990 (64GB) P53,990 (128GB)
- iOS 8
 - A8 chip with 64-bit architecture and M8 motion coprocessor
 - 8MP rear, 1.2MP front
 - 5.5" 1920 x 1080
 - 16/64/128GB built-in; 1GB RAM
 - LTE



- ASUS Transformer Book T100**
P23,995
- Windows 8.1
 - 1.3GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3740
 - 1.2MP front
 - 10.1" 1366 x 768
 - 32/64GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM



- BlackBerry Classic**
P20,990
- BlackBerry 10.3.1
 - 1.5GHz dual-core Qualcomm MSM 8960
 - 8MP rear, 2MP front
 - 3.5" 720 x 720
 - 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
 - LTE



- BlackBerry Passport**
P35,790
- BlackBerry 10.3
 - 2.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 801
 - 13MP rear, 2MP front
 - 4.5" 1440 x 1440
 - 32GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
 - LTE



- Huawei Ascend Mate 7**
P27,890
- Android 4.4 KitKat
 - 1.8GHz quad-core Cortex-A15 & 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A7
 - HiSilicon Kirin 925
 - 13MP rear, 5MP front
 - 6" 1920 x 1080
 - 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
 - LTE
 - dual SIM



- Huawei Ascend P7**
P20,990
- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
 - 1.8GHz quad-core HiSilicon Kirin 910T
 - 13MP rear, 8MP front
 - 5" 1920 x 1080
 - 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
 - LTE



- Lenovo Miix 2**
P21,999
- Windows Phone 8.1
 - 1.8GHz quad-core Intel Atom
 - 5MP rear, 2MP front
 - 8" 1280 x 800
 - 64GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
 - LTE



- Lenovo ThinkPad 8**
P25,490 (Wi-Fi only), P30,000 (3G)
- Windows Phone 8.1
 - 2.4GHz quad-core Intel Z3770
 - 8MP rear, 2MP front
 - 8.3" 1920 x 1200
 - 64/128GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
 - LTE



- Lenovo Vibe Z2 Pro**
P29,999
- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
 - 2.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 801
 - 16MP rear, 5MP front
 - 6" 2560 x 1440
 - 32GB built-in; 3GB RAM
 - LTE
 - dual SIM



- Lenovo Yoga Tablet 2 Pro**
P33,999
- Android 4.4 KitKat
 - 1.3GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3745
 - 8MP rear, 1.6MP front
 - 13.3" 2560 x 1440
 - 32GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
 - LTE



- LG G4**
P31,990 (metallic finish); P32,990 (leather)
- Android 5.1 Lollipop
 - 1.8GHz hexa-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 808
 - 16MP rear, 8MP front
 - 5.5" 2560 x 1440
 - 32GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
 - LTE



- OPPO N3**
P29,990
- Android 4.4 KitKat
 - 2.3GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 801
 - 16MP rotating camera
 - 5.5" 1920 x 1080
 - 32GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
 - LTE
 - dual SIM


OPPO R5
P21,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.7GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 615
- 13MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.2" 1080 x 1920
- 32GB built-in; 2GB RAM
- LTE


Samsung GALAXY A8
P24,990

- Android 5.1 Lollipop
- 1.8GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 & 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A53
- 16MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.7" 1920 x 1080
- 32GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE


Samsung GALAXY NOTE 4
P37,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.7GHz quad-core Krait 450 (1.9GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 & 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A57)
- 16MP rear, 3.7MP front
- 5.7" 2560 x 1440
- 32GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
- LTE


Samsung GALAXY Note 5
P36,990

- Android 5.1 Lollipop
- 1.5GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 & 2.1GHz quad-core Cortex-A57
- 16MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.7" 2560 x 1440
- 32GB; 4GB RAM
- LTE


Samsung GALAXY Note Edge
P43,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.7GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 805
- 16MP rear, 3.7MP front
- 5.6" 2560 x 1600
- 32GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
- LTE


Samsung GALAXY NotePRO 12.2
P39,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.3GHz Qualcomm Snapdragon 800
- 8MP rear, 2MP front
- 12.2" 2560 x 1600
- 32/64GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
- LTE


Samsung GALAXY S6
P29,990 (32GB)
P34,990 (64GB)

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.5GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 & 2.1GHz quad-core Cortex-A57
- 16MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.1" 2560 x 1440
- 32/64GB built-in; 3GB RAM
- LTE


Samsung GALAXY S6 edge
P34,990 (32GB)
P39,990 (64GB)

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.5GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 & 2.1GHz quad-core Cortex-A57
- 16MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.1" 2560 x 1440
- 32/64GB built-in; 3GB RAM
- LTE


Samsung GALAXY S6 edge+
P39,990 (32GB)
P44,990 (64GB)

- Android 5.1 Lollipop
- 1.5GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 & 2.1GHz quad-core Cortex-A57
- 16MP rear, 5MP front
- 5.7" 2560 x 1440
- 32/64GB; 4GB RAM
- LTE


Samsung Galaxy Tab S2 8.0
P24,990

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.9GHz quad-core & 1.3GHz quad-core
- 8MP rear, 2.1MP front
- 8" 1536 x 2048
- 32/64GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
- LTE


Samsung Galaxy Tab S2 9.7
P29,990

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.9GHz quad-core & 1.3GHz quad-core
- 8MP rear, 2.1MP front
- 9.7" 1536 x 2048
- 32/64GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
- LTE


Sony Xperia Z3
P34,090

- Android 4.4.4 KitKat
- 2.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm MSM8974AC Snapdragon 801
- 20.7MP rear, 2.2MP front
- 5.2" 1920 x 1080
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
- LTE


Sony Xperia Z3 Compact
P29,490

- Android 4.4.4 KitKat
- 2.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm MSM8974AC Snapdragon 801
- 20.7MP rear, 2.2MP front
- 4.6" 1280 x 720
- 16GB built-in, microSD; 2GB RAM
- LTE


Sony Xperia Z3 Tablet Compact
P31,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 2.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm MSM8974AB Snapdragon 801
- 8.1MP rear, 2.2MP front
- 8" 1920 x 1200
- 16/32GB built-in, microSD; 3GB RAM
- LTE


Vertu Constellation
P287,000

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.7GHz dual-core Qualcomm Snapdragon, Adreno 320 GPU
- 13MP rear, 1.3MP front
- 4.3" 1280 x 720
- 32GB built-in, microSD; 1GB RAM

WHY YOU SHOULDN'T PURSUE A CAREER IN DIGITAL MARKETING



CHRISSY I.
DALUSONG

Chrissy has been working in the digital industry for almost a decade. She wrote a big portion of her column on her mobile phone.

"So,

what do you do for a living?"
"I'm in digital marketing."

"..."
"Display advertising, search, social media..."
"Ah, Facebook!"

Digital marketers can attest to the countless times that Facebook saved a conversation on their careers from the dreaded tumbleweed. Small talk salvaged, yes, but now the person you're talking to probably thinks you're paid to browse Facebook the whole day.

If you think loving Facebook, blogging regularly, or being active in several other social networking sites is enough for you to thrive in the digital marketing industry, think again. Being passionate about the online space is essential, but consider this: just because you're nuts about basketball, it doesn't necessarily mean that you're the next LeBron James or Phil Jackson.

Several seasoned digital marketers on LinkedIn often experience recruiters reaching out to them with the message "Job Opportunity: Community Manager." Being a Facebook page administrator is a solid kick-off point for a career in the online sphere, but offering such a position to someone with at least five years of experience in the industry undermines the career path and breadth of options in the field.

This is one of the harshest realities of working for the digital industry. Aside from people assuming that the most challenging part of the job is coming up with a new post or tweet every day, some would go as far as throwing around internet buzzwords to either try to relate, or make them look more knowledgeable than you—the latter because to them, hey, it doesn't take much brains to update a Facebook page anyway. It's like relegating years' worth of online brand building, Web content creation, and ultimately one's livelihood to a couple of fancy words or phrases.


Digital marketers also have to compete with "digital marketers." Not a lot of companies offer digital careers at a managerial

level. Should someone from the industry pursue an opening in such a company, they would have to compete with other applicants that have peppered their CVs with experience that sounds

more impressive, such as maintaining a popular blog or speaking at a conference. Meanwhile, many employers who have zero digital background are wowed by these even if they have nothing to do with building a brand with an online audience. They can't be blamed, though, for choosing the person who gives the impression of being an internet guru over a mere marketing peon who works hard quietly by the sidelines.

Digital marketing is about data, strategy, and creativity. It involves a lot of numbers, though you don't have to be a Math whiz to appreciate and analyze reach, engagement rates, and impressions. Strategy is understanding your audience and knowing so much about their habits that they can almost issue a restraining order against you. Lastly, creativity allows you to make the most out of an entire World Wide Web as your canvas for your executions—and this goes way beyond crafting a witty hashtag. There's something innately geeky about the platform and the job, so it's pretty much marrying the right amount of geek and artist.

Ask yourself: Do I really want to pursue a digital career? If so, why? If your motivation is merely your passion for social media and surfing the Web, then heck, every millennial should become a digital marketing professional then. What will set you apart, though, is the training, knowledge, and experience you will glean from other disciplines: marketing, content development, project management, or research, among others. These skills will also ensure that you do not lose your job when Facebook becomes the next Friendster, or Snapchat goes the way of ICQ.

If after reading all this you still believe you have what it takes—experience and skills-wise—to make it in digital marketing, then you probably will make it. Don't be intimidated by more eloquent marketers with lots of friends in the industry bound by mutual admiration. Cancel out all the buzzwords and you'll realize you know as much—maybe even more—as they do. Let your work speak for itself; you don't need fancy awards to validate your achievements in the field. But above all, believe in what you're doing. Believe that your profession isn't just the next in thing, and a second-class counterpart to traditional media. Though it has its fun side with social media as an integral part of it, it's a solid platform that can contribute to your company's business objectives—much more than just likes, shares, and comments from trolls. 



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OCTANE

PETRON BLAZE 100 is formulated and developed to unleash the full potential of modern and high performance vehicles.

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OCTANE

PETRON XCS is the 95 octane, triple-action premium gasoline that provides quick engine response, superior engine protection and optimal fuel efficiency.

XTRA 93
ADVANCE OCTANE

PETRON XTRA ADVANCE, is the 93 octane gasoline with an advance fully synthetic detergent additive that effectively cleans the engine for a more fuel-efficient operation.

PETRON SUPER 91
OCTANE

PETRON SUPER XTRA GASOLINE has 91 octane and contains a powerful detergent additive that cleans away and prevents harmful engine deposits. It also protects the fuel system from corrosion.

Euro 4 Gasoline is available in Mega Manila.





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